

**TOWN OF ENFIELD**  
**Commission on Aging**  
**Minutes for Wednesday, January 9, 2019**

**Present:** David Goyette, Chairperson, William St. George, Secretary, Timothy Slade, Treasurer, Kathleen Tallarita, Michael Arnone, Jr., Marlene Hoginski, Muriel Capocci, Alice Egan, Judy Kilty, Howard Florian, Pat Linehan, Jessica Russell, DSS Staff Liaison, Bob Cressotti, Town Council Liaison, Lori Unghire, Town Council Liaison - designated.

**Absent:** none.

**Guest(s):** none.

David Goyette, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 2:01 PM

**Election of 2019 Officers:**

David conducted the discussion and election of officers for 2019.

A motion to nominate the 2018 slate for 2019 made by Marlene Hoginski and seconded by Tim Slade passed unanimously. Commissioners required no discussion on the motion. The 2019 officers are: David Goyette, Chairperson; Alice Egan, Vice-Chairperson; William St. George, Secretary; Timothy Slade, Treasurer.

**Chairperson's Report:**

David Goyette reported that he and Tim met with DSS management regarding the reapplication for the Repair Program grant through NCAAA. David asked commissioners to think about candidates for volunteer of the year; the application deadline is approaching.

**Secretary's Report:**

Will St George reported. A motion to accept the minutes, as presented, made by Marlene Hoginski and seconded by Tim Slade passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:**

Tim Slade reported. A motion to accept the report, as presented, made by Marlene Hoginski and seconded by Will St George passed unanimously.

**Committee Reports:**

- Senior Minor Home Repair Project – *(This program allows seniors to stay at home in a safe manner.)*

Tim Slade reported. Information on the 2019 program is disseminated through town communications and public newspapers. Requests for repair work will begin on the 11th of March. Work will begin on April 2, 2019. As happened in 2018, the end of the repair season could be adjusted due to public needs. The standard conclusion is on October 31st.

- Symposium – *(A gathering of professionals engaged with services and support to seniors.)*

- ◆ Symposium Executive Committee –

Pat Linehan reported. The committee will meet at the SC on Wednesday, January 23, 2019 from 1:00pm to 2:00. They will discuss symposium viability and options, potentially starting 2019 symposium plans.

- ◆ Senior Media Project - *(Public information about aging and living as an older American)*  
   , TV Show - "Senior Living"

Pat Linehan reported. The first taping will be Tuesday, January 22, 2019 with a 1:00pm crew call and a 2:00 taping. The Cox public access production runs on Cox channel fifteen. Muriel Capocci discussed the promotion (press release) process, including "Front & Center" requirements

◆ Focus Groups – (The focus groups were created as a result of previous symposiums.)

↳ Isolated Seniors

Michael Arnone, Jr. reported. The committee will meet with members of the Baptist church community at the corner of Brainard and Washington, (who volunteered to work as callers), on January 17, 2019. The pilot program will start February/March and run through June. The stipend for Carol, the coordinator of volunteers, has been established. Kathleen Mack has retired and is leaving the project in good stead.

↳ Communication, Technology and Health Services – (Now under Senior Media Project)

↳ Transportation, Housing and Socialization (*Transportation Survey in progress*)

Will St George reported. The first implementation of the survey will be Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 2:00pm with identical sessions on the Friday and Monday following. Commissioners Judy, Muriel, Kay, David, Howard, Pat and Marlene volunteered to assist at various sessions.

■ Grandparents Supporting Grandchildren

Kay Tallarita reported. Kay led a discussion of the current situation, including an anecdotal accounting of client needs and the benefits of the service.

■ Triad – (*The purpose of this national, state and local program is to promote senior safety*)

(*TRIAD meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month at 10:00am at the Senior Center*)

Marlene Hoginski reported. The efficacy of Senior Center evacuation training/drills was given a "real life" test. The building was evacuated in a clean and timely fashion when a gas leak was detected. Responders arrived quickly and the problem diagnosed and fixed. The next TRIAD meeting will be the second Tuesday in February. Another SC evacuation drill is planned.

■ Nursing Home Project: (*This project reaches those isolated seniors who are in a nursing home.*)

Alice Egan reported. . The shopping, wrapping and delivery of gifts to Parkway and St Joseph's went very smoothly. Alice shops to fill a list of needs as communicated by her nursing home contacts. Alice paid out of pocket for some item(s) not available at the purchase-ordered vendors. Tim Slade stated that Alice should submit the receipts for reimbursement and he described the process.

**Regular Reports and Topics**

**\*\*Old Business**

**++New Business**

■ DSS Report++

Specific topics discussed included energy assistance and "Enfield Cares." Jessica asked if the Commission still had interest in hearing about the tax abatement program. The answer was affirmative and Erin will give a presentation at the beginning of the next meeting. See the inclusion for the regular monthly report.

■ ADC- Adult Day Care\*\*++

Jessica Russell began the discussion. As usual, we heard the monthly status: number of clients, Enfield clients, average attendance, staff and client capacity. The cost and benefits were discussed. Bob Crossotti stated: There has been some talk of shutting the ADC down. I am against it and I will fight it. I am 100% for supporting seniors. When it comes to supporting seniors, I think of 'Community.' Lori Unghire stated: I am for that too.

The discussion continued briefly.

- Blue Book\*\* (*Citizens have frequently asked for an updated version of this reference booklet for seniors*)  
David Goyette started the discussion. The main topics were cost and budget. Bob Crossotti stated his support for this project.

- Coordination of Senior Groups

- Friends of the Senior Center\*\*

- Marlene Hoginski reported. The group is continuing with regular meetings and discussions.

- Senior Center Advisory Board++

- Not much is known at this time about its role and activity.++

**Announcements:**

- ✓ See Chairperson's Report. (Repair program grant, Volunteer of the Year)

- ✓ Acknowledgements: ● Regarding the Repair Program, Tim thanks Adrian for her work and DSS for its support. ● Mike thanks Kathleen Mack for her long service, dedication and leadership with the Isolated Seniors project. Mike also thanks DSS for the support. ● Dave thanks Damian for assisting with and educating on the repair program grant.

- ✓ Inclusions: (2)

- The current DSS Report for the Commission on Aging

- Commissioner Telephone List

- ✓ Open Question(s): (1)

- What is the U.S. Census data on the Enfield population of grandparents supporting grandchildren?

- ✓ Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 13, 2019 at 2:00 PM to 3:30 PM, at the Senior Center.

**Adjournment:**

A motion to adjourn, made by Marlene Hoginski and seconded by Will St George, passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 03:35 PM.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Will St George, Secretary

**Cc:**

Christopher W. Bromson, Acting Town Manager,

Lori Unghire, Council Liaison - designated,

Bob Cressotti, Council Liaison,

Jessica Russell, Staff Liaison,

Marguerite DuPrey, 'Commissioner Emeritus'.

01/09/2019

COMMISSIONER TELEPHONE LIST

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