

TOWN OF ENFIELD
Commission on Aging
Minutes for Wednesday, May 08, 2019

Present: David Goyette, Chairperson; William St. George, Secretary; Timothy Slade, Treasurer; Muriel Capocci; Kathleen Tallarita; Michael Arnone, Jr.; Marlene Hoginski; Howard Florian; Pat Linehan (arrived 2:10); Lori Unghire, Town Council Liaison (arrived 2:15); Jessica Russell, DSS Staff Liaison

Absent: Alice Egan; Judy Kilty; Bob Cressotti, Town Council Liaison

Guests: None.

David Goyette, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 2:05pm.

Secretary's Report:

Will St George reported. A motion to accept the minutes, with a correction, made by Marlene Hoginski and seconded by Tim Slade passed - (7,0,1).

Correction to April 10 Minutes: Under TRIAD 'Police Officer' should be 'Fire Chief'.

Treasurer's Report:

Tim Slade reported. A motion to accept the report, as presented, made by Will St George and seconded by Kay Tallarita passed – (8,0,0).

Committee Reports:

♦A. Senior Minor Repair

Timothy Slade reported 37 completed jobs, repair-year-to-date and 23 jobs scheduled through the middle of June. (See Acknowledgements)

♦B. Symposium

David Goyette praised Pat for her leadership and hard work on the symposium — an outstanding event this year. He stated that the Symposiums would not have happened without her. The Commissioners echoed these sentiments.

Pat Linehan reported 42 registered attendees with additional 'walk-ins'. The audience was "riveted" to the panel presentation on the Dementia / Alzheimer's topic. On a rating scale from 1 to 10, the nineteen evaluation scores averaged 9.4 with a standard deviation of 0.19 and a mode of 10¹. Pat passed around table-discussion reports and informed us of actionable participant comments. Pat stated there was a "strong willingness" among participants for a follow-up to this Symposium; e.g., workshop(s), focus group(s). The Commission's Symposium committee will discuss and initiate group work. Kay Tallarita described her experience with caregiver support groups.

♦ C. Senior Media Project - (Public information about aging and living as an older American)

▫ 1. TV Show - "Senior Living"

Pat Linehan discussed production changes made due to recent experience. The May taping is rescheduled to Tuesday, June 4th at 1:00pm. The show topic will be TRIAD. The next committee meeting is Tuesday, May 21st 1:00pm at the Senior Center.

▫ 2. Focus Groups

▫ 3. Isolated Senior Focus Group

Mike Arnone, Jr. reported. The six volunteers are currently training for the pilot program through the month of May. The pilot program will start in June. The award of an October 1 federal grant via NCAAA is anticipated. The \$1,400 budget covers insurance, background checks, dedicated telephone line, tracking ability (software and hardware), and a stipend for the volunteer director of the program.

▫ 4. Transportation Survey

¹ Statistics were calculated post meeting from scores presented at the meeting.

Will St George reported. The schedule for this month is 1:00 to 4:00pm at Woodside Park on Thursday, May 9th, Friday, May 10th and Monday, May 13th. Commissioners Muriel Capocci, Howard Florian; Kay Tallarita; Pat Linehan, Marlene Hoginski and David Goyette volunteered to assist survey administration. Will St George thanked the Commission for its support and the volunteers who make survey administration possible. The survey administration schedule for next month is Thursday, June 13th, Friday, June 14th and Monday, June 17th.

◆D. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren:

Kay Tallarita reported. The new facilitator, Heather expanded and improved the therapeutic component of the program with separate extracurricular outings for the children and grandparents. These provide exclusive time for respite, education, cognition, support and self care. Federal grant funding restricts support to grandparents aged 65 and over, whereas, many grandparents are younger. Kay discussed the possibility of campership funding from the Commission.

◆E. Triad:

Marlene Hoginski reported that the Active Aggressor program had good attendance, was received well, and had an excellent write-up in the newspaper. Marlene stated interest in repeating the program or something similar. The Commission agreed. Discussion of possibilities ensued. The policeman's picnic will be on Wednesday, June 19th.

Regular Reports and Topics:

◆E. DSS Report – The Commission conducted a standard review of the report with Jessica Russell, Staff Liaison. When questioned about recent changes, Jessica Russell stated her support of the Town Manager, Town Management, and Town Council.

◆F. ADC – *Work has continued on easing client transition to other facilities in the event of the program being shut down through future Town Council vote.* Jessica stated the roster is down to 9 clients with average attendance at 4.3 persons per day.

Old Business:

◆1. Blue Book (See 2019-20 Budget)

New Business:

◆2. Coordinating Senior Groups

□ i. Friends of the Senior Center

Marlene Hoginski reported. Work continues on the Senior Center doors and the between-bench patio. Memorial bricks for the patio were ruled out.

□ ii. Senior Center Advisory Board

No update.

◆3. 2019-20 Budget

David Goyette, Chairperson, lead the discussion. Discussion deciphered the amount of remaining funds and near-term needs. After thorough discussion, the Commission decided to fund the near-term needs of the “Blue Book” project.

All three of the below motions passed (8,0,0). Abbreviations: MO-Mission & Outreach; SMR-Senior Minor Home Repair

- A motion to reallocate \$75.00 from MO to SMR by David Goyette and seconded by Marlene Hoginski.
- A motion to reallocate “All funds remaining and available” to MO by Will St George and seconded by Pat Linehan.
- A motion to reallocate \$2000.00 from MO to the “Blue Book” project by Pat Linehan and seconded by Will St George.

Acknowledgements:

- The Commission thanks the support staff of DSS for their work regarding Senior Minor Home Repair.

- The Commission thanks “The Women’s Club of Enfield, Inc.” for their donation of \$50.00 to the Senior Minor Home Repair program and acknowledges President Nancy Kalyan and Treasurer Florence B. Bouchard.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn made by Will St George and seconded by Howard Florian passed (8,0,0). David Goyette adjourned the meeting at 3:53pm.

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 2pm at the Enfield Senior Center.

Respectfully Submitted by Will St George

Cc:

Christopher W. Bromson, Town Manager,
Bob Cressotti, Council Liaison,
Jessica Russell, Staff Liaison,
Lori Unghire, Council Liaison,

Marguerite DuPrey, ‘Commissioner Emeritus’.
32 Woodside Park, Enfield, CT 06082