

**TOWN OF ENFIELD COMMISSION ON AGING
MINUTES FOR WEDNESDAY, February 10, 2021
ELECTRONICALLY- WINDSTREAM**

Attendance

Present: Howard Florian; Alice Egan; David Goyette; Priscilla Linehan; Marlene Hoginski; Tim Slade; Judy Kilty; Will St George; Mike Arnone Jr; Bob Cressotti, Council Liaison; Cynthia Guerreri, Staff Liaison.

Absent: Lori Unghire, Council Liaison; Kay Tallarita.

Guests: Sheila Grady, Senior Center Manager, Jennifer Switalski, LMSW, Elderly Services Care Coordinator - Enfield.

I. Welcome

David Goyette, Chairman, opened the meeting at 2:08pm.

Dave announced the candidate for the vacant seat, proposed by Mike Arnone Jr., is on the agenda for approval at the next Council meeting.

II. Secretary's Report:

A motion to accept the minutes with corrections was made by Howard Florian and seconded by Tim Slade. The motion passed (8, 0, 1) with Judy Kilty abstaining.

Correction: [correct for omitted content] Include David Goyette, Chairman, in the motion to re-elect officers.

III. Treasurer's Report:

Tim Slade reported a month with no Transactions.

A motion to accept the report as presented was made by Will St George and seconded by Marlene Hoginski. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Committee Reports

A. SMHR - Senior Minor Repair Program

Tim Slade reported no changes in the program suspension status.

B. Symposium

Pat Linehan reported. Pat discussed the need for discernment of the next Symposium's format, viability and focus. Specifically: (Should it take place?); (Should it be IRL or virtual?); (Topic?). She called for a discussion at the next Commission meeting. It will be on the March agenda.

C. ISCP - Isolated Seniors Calling Program

Cynthia Guerrerri, Director of Social Services, explained how this program is to become a Department of Social Services program. The caveat is they are looking into the feasibility of managing volunteer workers under the Department of Social Services. Cindy explained how the ISCP grant from NCAAA was part of the current composite grant and folded into the “Enfield Cares” program. David Goyette, Chairman stated the Commission has run the program through several cycles and explained the interruption was due to COVID protocol shutting down the volunteer training classes. Dave stated the Commission has worked diligently over the past three years to get this program up and running and would not want to see the program go away. Cindy stated a liability assessment is in process. Jennifer Switalski, LMSW, Elderly Services Care Coordinator – Enfield has been making the calls to the ISCP call recipients.

D. SLTV - 'Senior Living' Public Access TV Show:

Pat Linehan reported. The current program is about public education on COVID19. It features two knowledgeable medical professionals from Yale/New Haven Hospital. The guest in March works with seniors and others in a pre-diabetic clinic. She will focus on Nutrition and Exercise.

Pat asked for a volunteer to replace Muriel Capocci as publicist. Will St George stated he would continue his assistance (previously to Muriel) placing event announcements in the Patch. A discussion regarding the needs ensued. David Goyette, Chairman, asked Will St George if he would take on the SLTV publicity work. Will accepted the role. Dave will send the JI contact information.

E. Transportation Survey

(Commission originated and separate from the Transit Department’s regular annual survey)

Cindy Guerrerri reported the final draft will be ready by the end of next week.

F. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

No Report.

G. TRIAD

Marlene Hoginski reported the committee did not meet over the past month.

David Goyette led a discussion regarding the purchase of Commission sponsored “File of Life” supplies. Marlene led the discussion of supply needs and distribution of the emergency preparedness tool.

A motion to purchase, with funds to be allocated from TRIAD and Mission & Outreach budgets, “File of Life” supplies of one thousand large and one thousand small Files, made by Marlene Hoginski and seconded by Tim Slade, passed unanimously.

Further discussion planned for use of a town approved West Suffield vendor and ordering the supplies in April.

H. Blue Books

Jennifer Switalski stated the books were distributed to about 70 people at the vaccination clinic held at the Senior Center.

I. CHOICES

No Report – Status Quo.

J. Nursing Home Project

A motion to reallocate \$65.00 from the Nursing Home budget to Mission and Outreach made by Pat Linehan and seconded by Judy Kilty, passed unanimously.

V. Old Business

A. Grants

Cindy Guerreri stated the renewal application for the NCAA grant(s) is/are due by March 19th. There is no guarantee of continuation.

B. Senior Groups

Marlene Hoginski stated there was no meeting this month.

C. Senior Center

Shelia Grady reported. The tax filing assistance program will run from February 22nd through April 12th. The program is as usual run by AARP. In the past 160 people were assisted; however, Shelia expects only about 50 to 60 people will be served this year due to COVID. She discussed the Senior Center COVID grant that runs from March to March and allows for purchase of supplies and equipment. The status and use of the Commission's two file cabinets was discussed. Dave reminded us that the official address of the Commission is 299 Elm Street.

VI. New Business

A. Department of Social Services – Building Consolidation - Moving

The Building Consolidation and department moves were discussed. Cindy Guerreri stated the moving plans were well underway and the Transit Department plan is to move before summer. On the Alcorn move, she said it will be beneficial to have two DSS groups together again. It will produce efficiencies and better client servicing. She expects that move to transpire at the end of summer or the beginning of fall. The Commission discussed the demolition plans for the Angelo Lamagna Activity Center and the Strand. The next topic was the Transit Department move and Meals-on-Wheels. Sheila Grady stated the Transit Department will use the whole suite, currently used by Meals-on-Wheels and Senior Center volunteer workers. Meals-on-Wheels will move to the wellness room across the hall and regular wellness room programming will be adjusted accordingly.

B. COVID Vaccination

Jennifer Switalski stated DSS is running a program for volunteers to assist seniors in getting a vaccination appointment. Several Commission members participate. Pat Linehan and Will St George expressed interest in learning more about it. Jennifer Switalski will provide the information. A detailed discussion ensued regarding this volunteer service and many other available methods of obtaining an appointment for residents in need of assistance.

VII. Announcements

None

VIII. Adjournment

A motion to adjourn made by Will St George and seconded by Tim Slade passed unanimously. Dave Goyette adjourned the meeting at 3:18pm.

Next Meeting: Virtual, on Wednesday, March 10, 2021 at 2:00pm., details to be provided.

Respectfully Submitted by Will St George, Secretary

Cc:

Christopher W. Bromson, Town Manager,

Lori Unghire, Council Liaison,

Bob Cressotti, Council Liaison,

Cindy Guerreri, Staff Liaison & Director of Social Services,

Jennifer Switalski, LMSW, Elderly Services Care Coordinator - Enfield,

Shelia Grady, Senior Center Manager,

Mary Keller, Deputy Director of Recreation Services,

Marguerite DuPrey, 'Commissioner Emeritus'

32 Woodside Park, Enfield, CT. 06082.