

Commission on Aging
Minutes of the Meeting
March 16, 2009

Present: Chair Christine Robertson; Sheila Silverman; Marion Freer; Alice Kenny;
Eileen Wilson; and Kathy Brennan
Absent: Mary Morrisroe; Mary Ann O'Grady

The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m. by Chair Christine Robertson

Minutes

Minutes of the February meeting were reviewed and corrected as needed by members. Motion was requested to accept the minutes or correct. Marion moved to accept. Kathy Brennan seconded the motion all agreed.

Discussion

Reverse mortgage was discussed when Christine saw an article in the NY Times which showed how expensive it could really be for people.

Christine said the town took our \$100.00 out of the budget for the coming year. It was discussed that we probably would be fine without it.

Connpac was discussed since our governor Jodie Rell wants to include assets for eligibility which may make the majority of clients in our town ineligible. This is a new proposal at the state and we will ask John Frey to speak to our commission on this and other subjects.

John Burgess, from the ^{RUNA PROGRAM} ~~Fairfield/Westchester Aging In Place Coalition~~ DEVELOPMENT COM, was our guest speaker and he spoke about the coalition and how things are evolving for our town and the other areas involved. There are many things to be considered like the following: transportation, home maintenance, social trips, and health issues. Certainly there are many more areas. Cost for services? How do I contact someone? Lots of things to be considered. John spoke of some of the programs already in place and how they were working. He also talked about grants and Federal funds that are being used by programs already in place. They are hoping to have a coordinator in place with a phone line 24hours a day 7days a week to funnel calls to the right place. The coordinator will also do grants, estate planning coordination, wellness seminars. One thing that John talked about was quite interesting it was called time banking where someone with a special ability could offer that service in exchange for a need they might have for another service. Like a barter system where both persons get their individual needs met.

Meeting was closed at 10:30 a.m. by chair. All accepted. Next meeting planned for April 20, 2009 at 9:30 a.m. in the town hall lower level conference room.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Brennan
Member of the Commission on Aging