

Commission on Aging  
Minutes of the Meeting  
October 19, 2009

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

Prior to the start of this Commission's meeting, Chair Christine Robertson introduced Eloise Barron, Coordinator of the Ridgefield Visiting Nurse Association's (RVNA) "Quality Living at Home" program. Eloise then introduced Ruth and Dick Sell, who have run Ridgefield's FISH organization. Ms. Barron honored Mr. & Mrs. Sell for their 40 years in this volunteer group which has provided seniors and the disabled rides to doctors or hospital appointments. Many of the FISH drivers were present to join in thanking the Sells for their years of service to the Ridgefield Community. Ms Barron also introduced Linda Zembron who will take over at FISH. Cake and coffee followed with all joining in to sing Happy Birthday to Ruth Sells.

The Commission was called to order at 3:15 p.m. by Chair Christine Robertson. Chris advised that members of this Commission have been invited to an Oktoberfest celebration at Ridgefield Crossings on October 22<sup>nd</sup>. She passed around the invitation to members.

#### Minutes

Minutes of the September 21, 2009, meeting were sent to members prior to this meeting. Mrs. Robertson asked if there were any corrections needed. None noted. Mary Ann O'Grady moved that the minutes be accepted as written. Mary Morrisroe seconded the motion. All present agreed.

#### Leir Foundation Grant

The Commission on Aging has received a grant of \$5,000 from the Leir Foundation. Chair Robertson's purpose in applying for this grant was to support the work of the Senior Positive Initiative (SPIF). Mary Morrisroe moved that the \$5,000 which the Commission on Aging received in 2009 from the Leir Foundation be transferred to SPIF. Sheila Silverman seconded the motion. All eight members of this Commission voted in favor of this motion. Motion carried.

#### Changes in the Town of Ridgefield Code of Ordinances

Chair Robertson advised that Town Clerk Barbara Serfilippi published a Legal Notice in the October 8<sup>th</sup> issue of the Ridgefield Press outlining the change recommended by this Commission in Section 13 ½-20 Tax Deferment for the Elderly which was approved by the Selectman and a Special Town Meeting on September 30, 2009, (attachment) This change will be effective on October 22, 2009.

#### Miscellaneous

There will be no "COLA" for Social Security recipients in 2010. A grant of \$250 per person is possible.

Chris Robertson received an Email from the Redding Commission on Aging listing the Email addresses of all members.

There was general discussion on FISH's need for additional volunteer drivers. Chris advised that Carole Konner told her that Ridgefield Social Services would turn over their twelve volunteer drivers over to FISH.

Mary Morrisroe requested that members review a draft of the minutes of the October 3<sup>rd</sup> "Summit Meeting" before she sends them to other Commissions.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morrisroe, Secretary

The next meeting of this Commission will take place on November 16, 2009, in the small conference room, lower level Town Hall at 2:30 p.m.

NOTE: Anyone requiring Special Accommodation due to disability is asked to contact Chair Christine Robertson on 438-6165