

Commission on Aging
Minutes of the Meeting
January 25, 2010

Present: Christine Robertson, Chair; Marion Freer; Alice Kenny Lucas; Mary Morrisroe;
Mary Ann O'Grady

Absent: Kathy Brennan; Sheila Silverman; Eileen Wilson

The meeting was called to order at 2:35 p.m. by Chair Christine Robertson

Minutes

Minutes of the December 21, 2009 Meeting were reviewed. Two typos noted—Shelia instead of Sheila. Mary Ann O'Grady moved that the Minutes be approved with correction. Alice Kenny Lucas seconded the motion. All present agreed.

EMT Medical Scam

The Chair asked Mary Morrisroe if her "Are You OK?" subscriber had resolved the scam she described at the December meeting. Mary reported that she had contacted her after her return from Germany, and was told that she did not know what if anything her children had done to stop the deductions from her account—could Mary stop it. Mary advised that she could not and asked that she check with her children. Mary will continue to follow up with her.

Quality Living—Prescription Delivery

Mary Morrisroe met with Eileen Kile, Pharmacy Manager at CVS. CVS does deliver to Ballard Green and to Congregate Housing. Deliveries are made by one of CVS Pharmacy technicians. Mary questioned her if this service could be expanded—if only to the "downtown" area. Ms. Kile was receptive, however, advised she must consult with "corporate". Mary will continue to follow up with her. Alice Kenny Lucas reported that Eckerd (Rite Aid) manager said could do nothing, just gave her an "800" number to call. Marian Roth of the Chamber of Commerce was not aware of the situation. Discussion followed re problems pharmacies have with delivery—costs, need for bonding, etc. Mary Morrisroe agreed to check Walgreens. Consensus, more to do!

Carole Konner

Carole Konner, Municipal Agent for the Disabled reviewed this year's sign up for CONN PACE and the changes for this year. Everyone who wanted to enroll in CONN PACE had to be enrolled in one of the twelve "Benchmark" plans for Medicare Part D. If the person was in another plan (e.g. Humana), they had to change. If a person was receiving assistance under the Medicare Savings Program (MSP) they were automatically eligible for Low Income Subsidy. Carole handled approximately 200 people requiring her assistance during the enrollment period from November 15 to December 31, 2009! Carole advised that the SweetHart Bus transportation is going pretty well—some casual users have dropped out and certain people who request specific times are not always happy. The "medical" bus is back. Carole reviews the bus manifests and feels it is generally working for most users. Carole advised that currently, fuel assistance is "OK"

Area Commissions

The Danbury Commission on Aging will host a meeting of area Commissions in late April or early May. They are looking for a suitable location.

Quality Living in Ridgefield and Redding

Calls continue to come in from people who want to donate medical equipment or who need medical equipment. Chris is working with Eloise Barron on this. A bulletin board is needed for this which could be set up at RVNA. Alice advised she has one and will bring to the RVNA.

Caregivers

Alice Kenny Lucas advised that she had attended a conference held by "Today's Caregiver Magazine" which was most interesting and helpful. A panel of experts on topics such as Medicare, elder law, etc. provided information and responded to questions from attendees. Vendors were present. Alice suggested that a similar meeting could be done with other Commissions in this area. Members were in agreement.

Social Networking

Alice briefly described her highly successful class at the Ridgefield Library introducing seniors to social networking on the "Web", including Facebook, My Space, etc. Alice has advised the Library that she would be happy to run another class.

A brief discussion of Gov. Rell's cancellation of LPN classes at Abbot Tech and other schools followed. Chris advised that she may contact John Frey as a speaker for next month. Another possible speaker would be Emma Lou Benedict, Chair of the Commission on the Disabled.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morrisroe, Secretary

The next meeting of this Commission will be on February 22, 2010, at 2:30 p.m. in the small Conference Room, lower level, Town Hall.

Anyone requiring special accommodation due to Disability is asked to contact the Chair Christine Robertson on (203) 438-6165