

Commission on Aging  
Minutes of the Meeting  
March 15, 2010

Present: Chair Christine Robertson; Kathy Brennan; Marion Freer; Mary Morrisroe;  
Sheila Silverman; Eileen Wilson

Absent: Alice Kenny Lucas; Mary Ann O'Grady

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Chair Christine Robertson.

#### Minutes

Minutes of the February 22, 2010 meeting were sent to members prior to the meeting for their review. The Chair asked if there were any changes or corrections. None noted. Sheila Silverman moved that the Minutes be accepted. Kathy Brennan seconded the motion. All present agreed.

#### Health Fair

The Ridgefield Visiting Nurse Association (RVNA) Health Fair will take place at East Ridge Junior High School on March 27, 2010. Chair Robertson requested members bring copies of the Senior Services Directory for this Commission's table. Mary Morrisroe will bring "Are You OK?" brochures and sign up information. Christine Robertson will be at Fair from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.. Mary Morrisroe will cover 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Sheila Silverman and Marion Freer will cover 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. R.N.s Kathy Brennan and Eileen Wilson have other assignments at the Fair. Mary Ann O'Grady and Alice Kenny Lucas are unable to attend.

#### Area Commissions

The Danbury Commission on Aging will host a meeting of Area Commissions on May 8, 2010 at Veterans' Hall, Rogers Park, Danbury from 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

#### Senior Transportation

Rich Schreiner of HART/Housatonic Area Regional Transit updated this Commission on Ridgefield's SweetHart Bus. There is now one bus in operation in Ridgefield five days per week, Monday thru Friday, with no fixed route. There is a second bus, the "medical" bus on Tuesday. This bus will make trips to Danbury as well as Ridgefield. Since the reduction in service, Schreiner advised, "casual" riders have dropped off, but the "regulars" are still using the bus. Riders must register for the bus, then call to make reservations a week ahead (It is possible to make a reservation up to 4 p.m. the day before) A "standard" booking may be made by filling out a form. (Carole Konner and the Ballard Green office can supply forms) A form may also be obtained from HART's web site. Discussion followed about other services, such as the Danbury to Norwalk Route 7 "Flag Down" bus service and the Ridgefield to Katonah Shuttle. All services are or could be affected by the current fiscal situation—federal, state, and local.

Eloise Barron of “Quality Living at Home” indicated that transportation is a major question for many seniors who contact her. She gave several examples of problems and discussed options such as acquiring cars which could be maintained by local dealers.. Schreiner indicated that HART has vehicles—the problem is drivers—their cost, availability, insurance, etc. All present agreed that senior transportation is and will be an ongoing problem.

#### Quality Living in Ridgefield

Eloise Barron distributed flyers for the seminar “Can You Afford to Stay in Your Home?” (attached) on April 14, 2010, at the Ridgefield Library. She will try to get Al Garzi to be part of the panel. Eloise reported that the “Wonderful Wednesdays” at Casagmo are a great success.

Eloise announced that Ed Bissell of Bissell’s Drug Store will pilot a drug delivery program—for everyone, not just seniors—from 2 to 3 p.m. , Monday thru Friday. Customers will pay by check or credit card. There will be a \$5 charge for delivery. Rite Aid has decided not to do a delivery trial.

General discussion followed, and with no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morrisroe, Secretary

The next meeting of this Commission will be held on Monday, April 19, 2010, at 2:30 p.m. in the small Lower Level Conference Room at Town Hall  
Anyone requiring special accommodation due to disability is asked to contact Chair Christine Robertson at (203) 438-6165