

Commission on Aging
Minutes of the Meeting
May 17, 2010

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

Absent: Eileen Wilson

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. by Chair Christine Robertson. Mrs. Robertson announced that Mrs. Mary Ann Baldwin, Ridgefield Social Services, is retiring. A dinner in her honor will be held on June 7th at Toscana.

Minutes

Minutes of the April 19, 2010, meeting were sent to members prior to this meeting for review. Several corrections noted: 80 not 800, two incorrect mentions of the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging. Mary Ann O'Grady moved that the minutes be accepted with corrections. Alice Kenny Lucas seconded the motion. All present agreed.

Commission Membership

Kathy Brennan and Shelia Silverman were reappointed to this Commission at the April 28th Selectmen's Meeting. Chris Robertson will ask Wendy Lionetti to send a confirmation letter to them.

Speaker

Mrs. Robertson introduced Pat Waas of the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging. Ms. Waas is responsible for their Caregivers' Support Program. Pat Waas outlined the services provided by this program, including the Ct. Statewide Respite Care Program and supplemental services—home safety modifications and medical related equipment available through the Federal National Family Caregivers' Support Program. Ms. Waas provided members with considerable brochures and pamphlets on available services and eligibility requirements.

Alice Kenny Lucas advised she had contacted the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging in regard to holding a "Fearless Caregiver Conference" and was referred to Pat Waas. Subsequently, a conference call was held with Gary Barg, CEO/Editor in Chief of the Caregiver Media Group. Mr. Barg indicated considerable interest in setting up a "Fearless Caregiver Conference" in the Danbury area, probably in the Spring of 2011. To do so, there are numerous things to consider, which Mr. Barg outlined in a letter following up the call(Attachment). Sponsors are required for the Conference who must contribute \$9,000. The Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging plans to contribute \$5,000. Considerable discussion followed regarding potential additional sponsors. The Caregiver Media Group also needs a list of vendors and groups serving caregivers who would be interested in a booth or table at the Conference which would be provided by the Caregiver Media Group at charges from \$500 to \$1,500.

Gary Barg will prepare detailed plans and send them to Pat Waas at the Western Connecticut Area Agency on Aging. Ms. Waas will provide Alice Kenny Lucas of this

Commission with these plans. Alice, in turn, will inform other Commission members. Questions were raised as to whether members of other Commissions on Aging should be invited to our meeting. All of the above will be discussed at the next regular meeting of this Commission.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morrisroe, Secretary

The next regular meeting of this Commission will be held at 2:30 p.m. on June 21, 2010, in the small Lower Level Conference Room, Town Hall, Ridgefield.

Anyone requiring special accommodation due to disability should contact Christine Robertson, Chair., on 203-438-6165.

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