

Commission on Aging
Minutes of the Meeting
May 15, 2017

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

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

Mrs. Robertson reported that Mary Morrisroe had advised that, after more than ten years as Secretary, she was resigning. Mrs. Robertson asked if anyone was interested. With no response, Mary advised that she would cover this meeting. Dayna Sierakowski agreed to take over as Secretary as of the June meeting. All present agreed.

Minutes of the April meeting had been reviewed by Commission members prior to this meeting. A typo noted on second page—"Colaboration" Mary Ann O'Grady moved that the Minutes be accepted with correction. Kathy Brennan seconded the motion. All present agreed.

Ridgefield Directory of Senior Services

Alice Kenny Lucas reported that TypoGraphic Services Inc. bill for printing and mailing the Directory was \$10,601.66. Members reported receiving compliments and complaints, e.g. Weir Farm National Park no longer issues America the Beautiful passes.. Alice advised that changes can be made to the Directory on the Town web site. Questions were also received about updates to the Gold Card Benefit Book

Leir Contributions

Chair Robertson advised that there is a balance of \$19,000 of the Leir Foundation's. contributions to this Commission---\$10,000 specifically given for a 2017 edition of the Directory. Since the Commission does not plan to issue another Directory this year, Chris asked members to suggest other plans or programs to support seniors which we could offer to utilize to retain Leir's support. A lively discussion followed. Suggestions included assisting financially SPIF's plan to update the Gold Card Benefit Book(Tony Phillips will discuss with SPIF) Alice Kenny Lucas' suggested that this Commission develop a program on the benefits to seniors in living in Ridgefield. The program should include all demographics of Ridgefield seniors and stress benefits like the senior tax allowance, Ballard Green, the RVNA and include senior specific events, talks, etc.

Members agreed with this approach and offered other suggestions. Kathy Brennan and Dayna Sierakowski will prepare a list and present it to members at our June Meeting. Members can consider plans for program development and how to implement it,. Chair Robertson will then send a letter to Margot Gibis, President of the Leir Foundation, advising that the sixth edition of the directory was just introduced April 1, 2017 at the RVNA Health Fair and we do not plan another this year. Chris will outline our new program and ask for Leir's support.

Further Distribution of the Directory

Mrs . Robertson requested ideas on distribution of the Directory. Among the suggestions were distribution to church offices and providing a supply to the Chamber of Commerce. Distribution to doctors' offices with a sticker advising that copies are available at Town Hall Information office was judged efficient but difficult to implant. Karen Gaudian advised of a possible solution on how to distribute copies. She will check with First Selectman Marconi to see if it would be possible to use interns who will be reporting in the next week. She volunteered to see if they can be available. All present this would be an excellent solution.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morrisroe, Secretary