

Commission on Aging
Minutes of the Meeting
July 17, 2017

Present: Chair Christine Robertson, Marion Freer, Mary Morrisroe, Kathy Brennan, Mary Ann O'Grady, Sheila Silverman, Dayna Sierakowski, Alice Kenny Lucas, Consultant Karen Gaudian

The meeting was called to order by Chair Chris Robertson at 2:30pm.

Minutes were reviewed; Sheila Silverman approved, Mary Ann O'Grady seconded.

Chris announced that Alice Kenny Lucas would be resigning from the Commission because she is relocating to New York City. Commission members thanked her for her service and wished her well.

Alice brought to Commission's attention an issue with the Katonah train station bus transportation. Schedule was changed without notice and isn't published anywhere for reference, which affected her recently and could impact other seniors as well.

Commission received letter from First Selectman Rudy Marconi that we have been given a budget of \$100 for the year.

Chris Robertson and Karen Gaudian reviewed and went over the letter we have drafted for the Leir Foundation in regards to keeping and funding programs with remaining money we were given in grants, totaling \$19,398.34. We also discussed in more detail the possible programs outlined in the letter and cost. We also talked about a second printing of the Senior Directory. Chris will be sending letter to Margot Gibis at Leir to seek approval to keep funds for programs outlined.

Mary Morrisroe made motion to accept letter to Leir as described, Sheila Silverman seconded.

Chair Chris Robertson introduced Laura Switzer, medical social worker at RVNA. She has been with RVNA for 14 years. She does home visits and described to Commissioners various situations and scenarios she comes upon in her visits. Common Issues for seniors are finances, transportation and isolation. Laura offers "typical" VNA social work services through Medicare and also through "Care Solutions," which is private pay geriatric case management.

Chris read a letter from Dr. George Noyes, a volunteer at the RVNA and retired science teacher from Ridgefield High School, who has shown a desire to be a new Commissioner on the Aging Commission and has sent a letter to First Selectman Rudy Marconi.

Chris discussed a few options for future speakers at our meetings.

Director of Social Services, Tony Phillips, brought up a recent article from the Ridgefield Press in regards to zoning regulations that have been amended to allow residents with ranch-style homes to construct upper-floor additions. The suggestion was made for the Commission to keep an eye on this issue, and how it may affect senior housing and the ability for seniors to be able to stay/live in town.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:07pm.