

Commission on Aging
Minutes of the Meeting
April 16, 2018

Present: Chair Christine Robertson; Kathleen Brennan; Marion Freer; Debra Franceschini-Gatje; Mary Morrisroe; Mary Ann O'Grady George Noyes Sheila Silverman
Advisor: Karen Gaudian

Absent: Dayna Sierakowski

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m. ,by Chair Christine Robertson, who welcomed the Commission's new member, Debra Franceschini-Gatje.

The Chair introduced Capt, Jeff Kreitz and Sergeant John Knoche of the Ridgefield Police. Chris advised that seniors were sometimes reluctant to contact the police. Capt Kreitz agreed and advised so are many others. In response, Ridgefield Police developed the Citizens Police Academy. An eight week course, from 6 to 9 p.m. which covers many phases of police work. This could open for seniors. Chris responded this course could help but many seniors do not drive at night. Capt. Kreitz advised he understood and offered to work with the Commission to setup sessions in the afternoon. The Library would be a good location. Chris Robertson will contact the Library and Capt. Kreitz.

The new Medicare cards are a possible source of scams on seniors. Tony Phillips and Capt Kreitz are prepared to combat this.

Chair Robertson then introduced Kimberly Henderson, Resident Service Coordinator at Ballard Green & Prospect Ridge Apartments, Kimberly thanked the Commission for our donation and provided members with a handout covering how this was and will be used.

Minutes of the March meeting were reviewed by members. No errors or typos noted. Sheila Silverman moved the Minutes be approved. George Noyes seconded the motion. All present agreed.

Grace Weber has asked if this Commission could donate a "scholarship" to Founders Hall to assist needy Founders Ridgefield members in paying for classes. Discussion followed. Mary Morrisroe moved that we donate \$1,000 as a scholarship to needy Ridgefield members, Criteria to be developed by Grace Weber. Sheila Silverman seconded the motion All present agreed.

A "Gold card book" will be on display at our table at the RVNA Health Fair. with slips explaining how to obtain a copy..

MSP Update

Karen reminded members that the Medicare Savings Plan "MSP" is in danger of being cut in half by the State Legislature and Gov.

Karen asked members to call and to urge others to call to stop cuts, She provided members with key talking points and legislator's telephone numbers.

George Noyes reported on his Youth/Senior programs. Twenty I phones have been donated to Social Services for seniors.

Application for our new Leir grant must be sent by April 24, 2018,

Karen has developed a great post card to be mailed to Ridgefield seniors inviting them to our meetings and to "hear from experts discussing many different issues. The large Conference Room will be reserved for us,

After reviewing assignments for the RVNA Health Fair, the meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Morrisroe, Substitute Secretary