

## Commission on Aging

### Minutes of the Meeting

May 21, 2018

Present: Chair Chris Robertson, Marion Freer, Dayna Sierakowski, Kathleen Brennan, Sheila Silverman, Mary Morrisroe, Advisor Karen Gaudian, Mary Ann O'Grady, Debra Francheschini-Gatje (by phone)

Absent: George Noyes

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

Minutes from last month were reviewed and accepted, with one spelling change. Sheila motioned to accept, Kathy seconded.

Chris passed around mock-up of postcard to be sent to senior residents of Ridgefield (65 years and older). Postcard indicates potential topics for future guest speakers and when commission meetings are. Particular information about each meeting will be put out monthly to indicate and remind residents of what that month's meeting will be.

Debra offered to submit info to Hamlet Hub for individual meetings once a month.

David Goldenberg spoke. He was chairman for affordable housing committee for 15 years. The job of the Committee was to make sure the broad needs of residents were met as far as housing in town. The committee is looking to start up again and they are looking to have members from various groups in town join the committee. It would be a monthly meeting commitment and some work to do, probably to start in fall. They are looking for commissioner(s) to consider joining. An orientation meeting is to be held in June and Mr. Goldenberg to confirm date for us. Committee meets once a month, usually on weeknight. Looking to start committee back up—maximum of 9 members; must be Ridgefield resident. Tony Phillips, Dir. Of Social Services, pointed out that COA needs to clarify if Commissioner can be an official member on the Committee. Commissioners would be more than welcome to attend committee meeting and have input.

Need for more options of affordable housing in town was discussed at length.

John Frey was our scheduled speaker but did not show.

Chris stated that MSP was reinstated to what it was before.

Karen indicated that Rudy Marconi has asked us to organize a picnic at Martin Park for seniors. September time frame of this year was talked about after park officially closes for

season. Suggestion was made to have new Parks & Rec admin, Dennis DiPinto, come to a meeting.

Also discussed various intergenerational programs in town.

Chris spoke of COA meeting with police and K9 unit on May 15th. Turn out was a bit low, but meeting was informative. Another meeting with police department to be set up in the future.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40pm.