

Commission on Aging Meeting Minutes
June 18, 2018

Present: Chair Chris Robertson, Marion Freer, Mary Ann O'Grady, Sheila Silverman, Dayna Sierakowski, Mary Morrisroe, George Noyes, Debra Francheschini Gatje, Karen Gaudian, Kathy Brennan.

Minutes from last month's meeting presented and reviewed. George Noyes approved, Mary Ann O'Grady seconded.

Meeting called to order at 2:30pm.

We are in the process of setting schedule for future meetings/speakers. Discussed meeting with political candidates in October--Whether if we invite Democratic candidate if we should have John Frey as well. Decision was made to not invite candidates, being that commission does not want give the appearance of taking political sides.

Talked about other speakers for months where we don't currently have one scheduled. Discussion ensued about other topics, including transportation—for example, for those whose needs are not being met by current services available. Going to try and have Rides for Ridgefield and SweetHart bus and SPHERE bus as speakers for October.

December—Have holiday party for seniors? Possibly have it at the Lounsbury House? Will be looked into.

John Frey was our guest speaker this month and reviewed legislation regarding seniors from this past session and the year to come:

Highlight of past year was getting MSP (Medicare Savings Program) fixed.

MSP will come up as an issue again next year—a positive from this year was that every legislator got numerous petitions from constituents to not touch the MSP program.

Considering asset test for MSP, but that would involve hiring numerous people at DSS to check, which may not make sense (cost to employ people may not offset benefit of using asset test).

Will need to be addressed in spring of 2019 before another decision will have to be made.

John Frey reviewed various legislation that passed this past year/budget.

Some bills that didn't pass—loan program for seniors facing foreclosure and an income tax deduction for taxpayers caring for aging/disabled individuals.

Meeting adjourned at 3:50pm.