

## Commission on Aging Meeting

July, 15th, 2019 Meeting  
Minutes of the Meeting

Present: Marion Freer, Sheila Silverman, Mary Morrisroe via phone, Advisor Karen Gaudian, Dr. George Noyes via phone, Debra Franceschini-Gatje, Tony Phillips on behalf of Ridgefield Social Services.

Absent: Kathleen Brennan (attended meeting as a public resident)

The meeting was called to order by the commission at 2:30pm.

Minutes from last month were reviewed and accepted. Sheila made motion to approve. Seconded by Dr. Noyes. Mary abstained.

Christine Robertson resigned from her chair position since our last commission meeting.

Debra Franceschini-Gatje expressed her interest in taking on an Interim Chair position until the end [December 2019](#).

Dr. George made motion to approve. Seconded by Mary. All were in favor.

Sheila shared an idea to have the commission take a Summer recess as other commissions do in town due to busy summer schedules. Debra made a motion to approve. Seconded by Dr. George. All were in favor. As a result of this vote, the [August 19th](#) commission meeting will be canceled. The next commission meeting will be on [Monday, September 16th, 2019](#).

Debra asked Karen how many people we had signed up for the free summer vacation event to Camp ConnRI, Karen said we had 16 and The event was planned for 50. Feedback from commission was that most seniors found the event unappealing and would prefer an event done locally, perhaps at Martin Park. The commission discussed an idea of opening the event to other nearby towns, but the commission ultimately decided not to move forward with plan and keep any events only to Ridgefield residents.

Karen will confirm if the event has any cancellation fees. She & Tony Phillips were given full approval by the commission to cancel the trip if there were no fees.

Mary volunteered to do minutes in September but can only be available by phone, however we may need an alternate plan if she can't hear the meeting clearly by phone. We have a backup if needed.

The commission discussed a meeting with First Selectman, Rudy Marconi to talk about the purchase of a gift for Christine Robertson for all her years of service on the commission as Chair. Sheila will take the lead on this action and advise the commission at our next meeting.

Guest Speaker for our Monthly Speaker Series was Valerie O'Rourke, Social Services Supervisor for the CT Department of Social Services. She discussed Protective Services for the Elderly. She stated that Elder Abuse is the most under reported issue they have.

Submitted by meeting Secretary,  
Debra Franceschini-Gatje