

**EAST GRANBY, CONNECTICUT  
COMMISSION ON AGING  
VIRTUAL MEETING**

**MINUTES  
APRIL 6, 2021**

A virtual meeting was held via Zoom and telephone call-in on April 6, 2021. Chairman Richard Galluccio called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm. In attendance were Chairman Richard Galluccio, and Vice Chair Cheryl McCann; members Lucia Ziobro, Felice Mara, Marie Sandora, Cathy Delasco, Judy Root, and Jennifer DeCoteau; alternate Roxanne Derlinga; students Sean Griffin and Colby Betts; and Director of Senior Services Kelly Jacobs. Absent were member Corrine Dickerson, alternate Maureen Emery, and Director of Social Services Elise Cosker.

1. OPENING REMARKS

R Galluccio stated that the East Granby Advisory Committee sent letters to Town Commissions and Departments, as well as tax exempt organizations and others, asking them to consider making an application for grant money from The Hartford Foundation, which created the committee. They are awaiting applications.

2. MINUTES

There were no corrections to the minutes of the meeting held on March 2, 2021. F Mara made a motion and J Root seconded accepting the minutes as written. All were in favor and the motion passed.

3. SENIOR SERVICES UPDATE/COMING EVENTS

K Jacobs stated that the Community Center is just now opening for the Senior Exercise Group on Mondays and Wednesdays, and the Knitting Group on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesdays of the month. The new computer software program is nearly installed and operational for the Senior and Social Services Departments.

4. SOCIAL SERVICES UPDATE

R Galluccio read E Cosker's report which stated that the CT Energy Assistance Program has been extended to June 15, 2021 and no longer requires an income test for eligibility.

5. GOOD SAMARITAN PROGRAM

No report

6. OLD BUSINESS

a. Have Meetings with Regional COA's

The Committee stated that they met with COA members from Simsbury and Granby via Zoom and telephone call-in on March 9, 2021. There was an exchange of information about each Town's COA as well as their programs and initiatives. It was decided that they should continue to meet bi-monthly and that each Town should select a single representative to attend these meetings. However, it was also decided that the next meeting in May, 2021 (date TBD) should be attended by everyone who attended the March meeting, along with the chosen representative should that person not be among the March attendees. R Galluccio stated that he would email the notes taken by M Sandora to the Commission.

b. Senior Wellness Fair

C McCann requested that an effort be made to determine if there was a tentative date being considered for the Flu Clinic, which is the event at which the Fair has become a part. Even with only a tentative date, the Committee could send out "Save the Date" notices to prior and potentially new participants.

c. Senior Celebration

No report

d. Greenway Day

F Mara and C Delasco stated that this event will be planned for September, 2021 in coordination with the East Granby Land Trust. They hope to have a report about the plan at the next meeting.

e. East Granby Cares

S Griffin and C Betts stated that this event will be planned for September, 2021. As requested by the Commission, they will prepare and submit an article to the next Let's Talk Turkey to publicize that this event will be taking place. The hope is that seniors will start thinking about what help they will need, and look for the event details as they become available so they can register to be helped.

f. Update "Access to Durable Medical Equipment"

R Galluccio stated that he will email the draft update as prepared by J DeCoteau to the Commission for their review.

g. Writing/Sending “Thinking of You” Cards to Seniors

C McCann stated that she and C Delasco prepared a possible draft of what the notes could say and sent that to K Jacobs for her review. K Jacobs sent back an expanded draft which C McCann said would be a lot to ask the note writers to put in every one of many cards. The Commission suggested that the notes themselves be more of a warm short and sweet type; and the other help-oriented data that could be provided should be in the form of an insert to be included with every card. An email of the drafts will be sent to the Commission for their review and input.

7. NEW BUSINESS

a. UR Community Cares, Inc

Michelle Puzzo and Donna Powell gave a lengthy presentation about this non-profit organization. It is their mission to connect residents age 70+, or 18+ who have a temporary or permanent physical disability, with volunteers who want to provide at-home help, town by town. The help is provided for free and all participants are background checked. They currently serve about 100 towns. After the presentation, there was a Q&A period.

8. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

None

9. COMMENTS FROM COA

None

10. ADJOURN

M Sandora made a motion and F Mara seconded adjourning the meeting. All were in favor and the motion passed. The meeting adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Barbara A. Marsele  
COA Clerk