

Commission on Aging

East Granby, CT

Minutes

May 7, 2024

East Granby Town Hall / 6:30 p.m.

In attendance:

Cheryl Bermani-McCann, Chairwoman

Pam Carroll

John Kiang, Member

Cathy Delasco, Vice Chairwoman

Mattia Brose, Member

Tom Ferdman, Alternate

Marie Sandora, Member

Donna Mattera, Clerk

James Fagnant

Lee Galluccio

Kelly Jacobs, Senior Services

The regular meeting was called to order with a quorum present by Chairwoman Cheryl Bermani-McCann at 6:36 p.m.

1. **Opening Remark** - Chairwoman Cheryl Bermani-McCann reported there were 13 views of the last meeting which was a little down from previous meetings. It was also noted someone commented on the programs Jon Webster is working on, one of which is cyber security. Cheryl was contacting Jon to follow up. Kelly Jacobs noted she responded to an email asking why the program would not be held sooner. She replied to their email that time is needed to schedule as well as have enough time to advertise to residents and also have it included in Talk Turkey. The resident also requested to have more than one session.

2. **Minutes of Past Meeting - MOTION:** A motion was made by John Kiang, seconded by Pam Carroll to accept the April 2, 2024 minutes as presented. Chairwoman Cheryl Bermani-McCann noted under the Old Business 2024 Initiatives section, the first sentence, last word should be "yet" instead of "it". **Motion passed unanimously.**

3. **Senior Services Update** - Kelly Jacobs reported she received a few inquiries of why people received cards. She explained the purpose of the cards to the residents. She also has been approached by the organizers of the Farmers Market to see if the COA would like to have a booth at one of the market days. The committee discussed and decided to take part in the Farmers Market. She provided Cheryl with the business card with the contact information. She also asked the committee if they could discuss the summer meetings as held in the past with one held at Higley Village and the other at Metacomet Homes. The committee decided on July 9th to be held at Higley Village and August 6th to be held at Metacomet Homes. She is trying to finalize her summer newsletter and will include the information so residents are aware of the dates. She also reported her remaining programs are full. Just a reminder the lobster/music event is taking place on June 21st.

4. **Social Services Update** - Elise Cosker asked Kelly to report that the deadline to apply for Energy Assistance for electric heat is May 31st.

5. **Good Samaritan Program** – Kelly Jacobs and Elise Cosker – nothing to report at this time.

6. **Old Business**

East Granby Cares – It was reported there were 17 seniors who signed up for East Granby Cares day. James Fagnant noted there were 27 students who participated. Unfortunately they were not able to get to one or two of the houses. Mr. Mendrala and James discussed possibly reaching out to reschedule. Some of the jobs the students helped residents were raking, mulching, sweeping and picking up branches. Looking ahead to next year it was suggested to create a spreadsheet and note the date the person signs up so this will help when prioritizing job assignments. Making calls a few days in advance was another

suggestion. A special thank you to James for organizing, scheduling and working the day. Cheryl noted on Facebook she saw a posting of a real estate broker who advertised knowing people in the business who could help with small jobs. Cheryl was planning on contacting the broker in case there was a need.

Review COA Website Information – Marie reported there are more items needing to be done on the website but does not have the authority to do so. She will reach out to Eden for an update on the status of changes.

2024 Initiatives

- 1) **Technical Lessons on Phone/pc** – Cathy reported she reached out to the Guidance Department at the high school but has not heard back as of it. Donna offered to contact the high school and have someone reach out to Cathy.
- 2) **Free Attorney Elder Law Program** – Jon was not present at tonight's meeting. The session is planned to be scheduled for the fall. Cheryl is also asking him to reach out to 360 Credit Union in regards to the cyber security program and the logistics and availability of dates.
- 3) **Thinking of you cards, 80+ Seniors** – Cathy reported 189 cards were prepared by the committee and she sent out an additional 55 totalling 244 cards sent out. It was noted that any cards that went out to individuals at Turkey Hill Apartments, information was included regarding the Renters Rebate program. A special thank you to Cathy for all her hard work and organizing the committee helpers!

Senior Reading Program @ Schools - Missy Bavaro, Superintendent gave Cheryl ideas for senior participation in the schools. The list was distributed to the committee. Mattia Brose volunteered to work on a flier for volunteer opportunities. Once completed, it will be available on the website.

Rich Galluccio's Sunshine Fund - The fund is ongoing. Lee noted there were no updates to report. Cheryl read to the committee her submission to Talk Turkey.

As always, donations can be made in his honor to the Richard Galluccio Senior Services Memorial Fund, % Windsor Federal Bank, 21 Hartford Avenue, Granby, CT 06035.

Lee Galluccio's donation of Hydrangeas in Rich's name - Cheryl reported Eden was able to secure the town's help in relocating the hydrangeas. Time for the work to be done and placement of the hydrangeas is to be determined.

7. New Business -

Wellness Fair Preparation/Assignments - Cheryl distributed a list of assignments and the timelines in which they would need to be worked on/completed. She went through the list and noted who was able to volunteer for the different assignments. Lee Galluccio volunteered to donate a plant as a give away for the event. The date will most likely be October 21st but will need to be confirmed.

8. **Comments from the Public** - Lee commented it was a nice meeting and alot was accomplished!

9. **Comments from COA** - There were many well wishes for a Happy Mother's day. Committee members thanked Cathy for all her work on the cards! James Fagnant announced the team is 12-3 and invited everyone to come to the next game. Signs are put out when there is a home game and welcomes the support!

10. **Adjournment - MOTION:** a motion was made by Mattia Borse, seconded by Cathy Delasco to adjourn the meeting at 7:53 p.m. **Motion passed unanimously.**

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Mattera

Donna Mattera, Clerk