

TOWN OF STONINGTON

COMMISSION ON AGING REGULAR MEETING DRAFT MINUTES

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Wednesday, March 4, 2020 at 4:00 pm
Stonington Human Services – 166 South Broad Street, Pawcatuck, CT

Members Present: Marilyn Riley; Susan Peglow; Stacy Cassatta; Joann Kelly; Louise Bray; Ruth Nolder; Norm Eelendson; RJ Connelly, Susan Sedensky; Jennifer Young

Human Services Representative(s): Cindy Gardiner

Selectwomen Liaison: June Strunk

Guests: Kyle Lowry, Sara Elmakhleuli, Emma O'Keefe (SHS Students); Samantha Shawn- Marsh

no votes taken due to agenda not being posted

Secretary's Report

- New Members, guests and students were introduced.
- Commission processes were discussed and supporting information was provided including:
 - Ordinance Re: Commission on Aging
 - Ordinance Re. Quorum Clarification
 - FOI document posting
- Members were reminded of their COA term expiration dates and urged to contact the town hall for further information.

Financial Report

- Year to Date Budget Report, dated 2/29/2020 was provided. \$2,810.61 has been spent. The largest expenditure continues to be Reproduction & Printing and Postage. \$3,489.39 remains.
- The COA's agreed upon request for a budget increase was made at the recent BOF meeting. This request was made to support the Town of Stonington Cognitive Safety & Awareness Program
- The World Elder Abuse Awareness committee will be making a request to support their annual June 21 event.

Programs and Events

- Cyndi Gardiner presented the Services Summary Report. This report provided data on all community contacts within the Human Services Department. Overall, 62% of the 209 contacts were with community members over the age of 55. Programs and/or Services provided include: advocacy, workshops, food and transportation programs, CHOICES counseling and Medicare
 - There was an increase in contacts re. transportation. Cyndi accredits this to both the ETCT program and the new SEAT Hop program.
 - June Strunk has suggested that area agencies serving older adults create a data sheet to better report the needs of the 55(+) population in Stonington.

- The not yet released, Town of Stonington Cognitive Safety & Awareness Program was discussed. This program will be a joint effort between Stonington Human Services and Stonington Police with a goal of supporting families caring for loved ones with cognitive impairment. It will utilize technology, familial knowledge and public interest to locate those that are lost.

Old Business

- World Elder Abuse Awareness Day was discussed and the opportunities to support and/or participate were offered.
- Comfort Baskets continue to be available by contacting Stacy Cassatta. She is always looking for assistance with packing and delivering baskets. Items that can be donated include mugs, tea, stationary, crossword puzzle books, knit afghans, etc.

New Business

- A slate of candidates for COA officers needs to be identified and voted on. This cannot happen until all the regulations regarding voting are met.

Next Meeting – Wednesday, April 1, 2020. 4:00pm at the Stonington Human Services Building
This is a special meeting date due to the New Year holiday.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Young