

# *Branford Commission of Services for the Elderly*

Laurie Rockwell – Chair  
Jean Richo  
Patricia B. Torre

Patricia Brownell-Co-Chair  
Luba Mebert Schmid  
Mary Hahn

Dana Murphy  
Ellen Carucci  
Alpha Coiro

## **Meeting Minutes May 13, 2021**

Call to Order - The Zoom Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Chair Laurie Rockwell. Also present: Pat Torre, Pat Brownell, Ellen Carucci, Jean Richo, Alpha Coiro and Dana Murphy. Director Dagmar Ridgway and Activities Coordinator Nancy Cohen were in attendance.

- I. Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting February 11, 2021 – On a motion by Pat Brownell and Seconded by Ellen Carucci, the minutes were unanimously approved.
- II. Dagmar Ridgway presented the Director's Report. Dagmar addressed a variety of topics including the ordering of the 2 buses, the sale to the Legacy Theater of an older bus, the Vaccine Clinics, the Vital Connections Grant and the BHS Interact Club's involvement with Canoe Brook, the Farmers to Families food distribution (over 90,870 pounds!) and that programs will be transitions back on site. There will be a lot of protocols to be instituted to follow appropriate guidelines and recommendations and the phase in will be a slow, but welcome process. There will be no meal service at this stage and transportation will hopefully begin in late June. Staffing updates – Ellen Maron has resigned to take on a new position at Gaylord and will be greatly missed. Nicole Adelkopf will be returning from leave and Richard Peck was thanked for his services as one of our long time and dedicated drivers. He has retired. It has been requested to Human Resources to post both of these vital positions. Senate Bill 817 has been passed. It acknowledges the many contributions of Senior Centers, which have been particularly vital during the pandemic.
- III. Nancy Cohen discussed Programming Activities. Many activities continue to be conducted virtually, including an Older Americans Month celebration and a Juneteenth program. Upcoming events include shredding, a Triad Session and a variety of lectures.
- IV. Social Services are being addressed via the telephone and computer, including applications for Energy Assistance (deadlines have been extended), help with Social Security, SNAP, Medicare and Unemployment. Rent Rebate letters are going out. The Grant for the Disposable Undergarments still has funding available. Applications and communications regarding this program are confidential and discreet.
- V. Citizen's Comments – Wayne Cooke addressed the commission. His comments were accompanied by a screen-shared presentation.
- VI. On a motion from Alpha Coiro, Seconded by Jean Richo, by unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at 5:42 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for September 9, 2021.

Respectfully Submitted by Doreen F. Denhardt, Commission Clerk.