

# *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 September 10, 2020**

Call to Order - The Zoom Meeting was called to order at 5:02 pm by Chair Laurie Rockwell. Present: Pat Torre, Pat Brownell, Jean Richo and Ellen Carucci and Alpha Coiro. Director Dagmar Ridgway and Activities Coordinator Nancy Cohen were also in attendance.

- I. Approval of the Minutes - Motion to Approve the Minutes of the February 13, 2020 meeting by Ellen Carucci, seconded by Pat Brownell. Vote to approve: Unanimous.
- II. Director's Report was presented by Director Ridgway. It is Senior Center Month. There are a great deal of issues and changes due to the Coronavirus Pandemic. The staff was complimented as all embraced a new way of doing things, from weekly online newsletters to virtual services to delivery services (such as meals) and many phone calls to members just to check in. Work has begun specking out 2 new vehicles. The Financials and statistics were reviewed. Dues and Fees have been paused until members can be welcomed back into the center. Things will be very different when that happens due to all the concerns surrounding the pandemic.
- III. Programming/Activities Report was presented by Nancy Cohen. Happenings include lots of online and zoom classes, great tutorials, a successful Pen Pal program and a car parade. The Senior Learning Network has some really cool online sessions – they are national, live and interactive. The VNA has a great Chair Fitness Program. The Election and Voting Process has been reviewed and talked about so people are comfortable with the process. Flu Shot Clinics and Drive Thru Clinics are gearing up.
- IV. Social Services Report – was presented by Dagmar. A Community Resource Guide was developed and the commission was updated regarding the Rent Rebate Program, Farmer's Market coupons, the Disposable Undergarment Grant, and the Energy Assistance Program. Dagmar also spoke regarding her passion for securing funds from the Cares Act to help seniors get connected. If every student can get a laptop, why can't every senior get an iPad? She has reached out to the Governor regarding a variety of issues our seniors face in this crisis and the ongoing social distancing.
- V. Comment Box – No Comment Box.
- VI. Citizen's Comments – Dana Murphy phoned in. He was having some connectivity issues!

A Motion to Adjourn was made at 6:05 pm by Ellen Carucci, seconded by Pat Torre and unanimously approved. The next meeting is scheduled for November 12, 2020.

Respectfully Submitted by Doreen F. Denhardt, Commission Clerk.