

# *Branford Commission of Services for the Elderly*

Laurie Rockwell – Chair  
Patricia Brownell  
Patricia B. Torre

Dana Murphy  
Susan Cosgrove Barnes  
Mary Hahn

Luba Mebert Schmid  
Jean Richo

## **Meeting Minutes January 11, 2018**

Call to Order - The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm at the Branford Fire Department by Chair Laurie Rockwell. Roll Call: Dana Murphy, Patricia Torre, Mary Hahn, Laurie Rockwell, Patricia Brownell and Susan Cosgrove Barnes. Also in attendance: Director Dagmar Ridgway and Activities Coordinator Nancy Cohen.

- I. Anita Perito has resigned from the Commission. Laurie Rockwell thanked her for her service, including her efforts in obtaining the Mastery in Aging Grant and moving the new Senior Center facility forward. Approval of the Minutes - Motion to Approve the Minutes of the November 16, 2017 meeting by Susan Barnes, seconded by Pat Brownell. Vote to approve: Unanimous. Laurie Rockwell asked for a motion to name Patricia Brownell as Co-Chairman of the Commission. Motion by Susan Barnes, seconded by Pat Torre. Vote to approve: Unanimous.
- II. Director's Report was presented by Director Ridgway. It included the Financial Report, Statistics and Medical Transportation Donations (Homemaker's Thrift Shop made a Donation of \$1500 and Martin Hallier, one of the drivers, donated \$500). The Crafter's Group raised almost \$2000 and Dagmar recognized the abilities of the talented group of Seniors creating so many wonderful items. The 26<sup>th</sup> Annual Rotary Club Dinner was a huge success again this year. Driver Recruitment for Medical Transportation is going well. The Software upgrade is continuing and members are being asked to update the contact information. The Waiting List has opened for Parkside Village. A brief update on the new facility was presented, and some comments were taken from the audience at that time. Some concerns were allayed regarding space and the Director stressed that they are striving for flexibility and functionality for the spaces. The hiring of a new Tech Expert is on hold, due to staffing changes in Human Resources. The Annual Report is on file in the Town Clerk's Office.
- III. Programming/Activities Report was presented by Nancy Cohen. Among the many topics addressed: Lots of wonderful parties and events in December; there will be a Veteran's Coffee Hour on 1/24, a Black History Month Celebration, a Valentine's Event, a Chinese New Year Party and some great upcoming trips.
- IV. Social Services Report – was presented by Director Ridgway. Highlights include: the processing of Applications for Fuel Assistance, the new Full-Time Caseworker is on staff, Operation Fuel assistance, the state's Rent Rebate Program and the Medicare Savings Program.
- V. Citizen's Comments – were addressed briefly during the meeting. Due to meeting room availability, further comments will be heard at the next meeting.

A Motion to Adjourn at 5:48 was made by Pat Brownell, seconded by Susan Barnes and was followed by a Unanimous vote to approve. The next meeting is scheduled for March 8, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted by Doreen F. Denhardt, Commission Clerk

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