

Branford Commission of Services for the Elderly

Laurie Rockwell – Chair

Anita Visentin Perito – Vice Chair

Patricia B. Torre

Patricia Brownell

Susan Cosgrove Barnes

Mary Hahn

Dana Murphy

Luba Mebert Schmid

Jean Richo

Meeting Minutes

June 8, 2017

- I. Call to Order
 - A. The meeting was called to order at 5:08 pm at the Branford Fire Department by Chair Laurie Rockwell.
 - B. Roll Call: Dana Murphy, Luba Mebert Schmid, Anita Visentin Perito, Laurie Rockwell, Patricia Brownell, Susan Cosgrove Barnes, Patricia Torre, Mary Hahn and Jean Richo. Also in attendance: First Selectman James Cosgrove and Nancy Cohen, Activities Coordinator.
- II. Approval of the Minutes
 - A. Motion to Approve the Minutes of the March 9, 2017 meeting by Dana Murphy, seconded by Pat Brownell. Vote to approve: Unanimous.
 - B. Chairman Laurie Rockwell welcomed three new members to the Commission: Patricia B. Torre, Mary Hahn and Jean Richo.
 - A. Director's Report - Chair Laurie Rockwell delivered the Director's Report, including Senior Center Statistics, Repairs & Maintenance Account status, 2017/18 Budget and open positions. The First Selectman addressed the Caseworker Position and is happy it is fully funded as a fulltime position. He mentioned the challenges faced in the new year's budget and was pleased that this position was recognized as important. Also discussed: issues in the current building, the Driver Appreciation Party to be held, vehicle acquisition and the completion of a grant. An update on the Meals offerings was provided and The Homemaker Thrift Shop was acknowledged for a \$1000 donation made to benefit Branford Medical Transportation. Congratulations were offered to Rita Santoroski as the recipient of the 2017 Remarkable Senior Award. She was honored as part of the Older American's month celebration at the Owenego.
- III. Programming/Activities – Activity Coordinator Nancy Cohen updated the commission on a variety of activities including the Bling Bazaar, the AMP program, fitness classes and Sitercize. All programs are going well.
- IV. No Social Services Report was presented.
- V. First Selectman Cosgrove updated the commission on the status of the plans for the new facility. He touched on a several topics including finalizing rooms, flexible space rooms, flooring and the acquisition of parcels adjacent to the property to enhance access.
- VI. Comment Box – Anita Visentin Perito read Dorothy Ricker's letter to the commission. She has concerns about the Elderly Housing stock in town. Ms. Ricker is hoping the commission can be of assistance. The First Selectman spoke regarding the town's housing and reiterated that the Branford Housing Authority is not a Town entity.
- VII. Citizens Comments – George Dwyer addressed the commission on a variety of issues. Carl Dawson addressed the commission requesting a presentation from the First Selectman about the new facility and specifically a fully functioning kitchen. Luba Mebert Schmid suggested the possibility of some fundraising ideas for the new center.
- VIII. A motion to Adjourn at 6:10 was made by Mary Hahn, seconded by Pat Brownell and was followed by a Unanimous vote to approve.
- IX. The next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2017.

Respectfully Submitted by

Doreen F. Denhardt, Commission Clerk

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