

COMMISSION ON AGING

Minutes

February 6, 2017

Present: Commission members Helen de Keijzer, Don Gumaer, Peggy Anderson, Bruce Lorentzen, Allison Lisbon and newly appointed member Dale Robinson; Social Services Director Charlene Chiang-Hillman; Senior Center Director Wendy Petty; Dial-a-Ride driver Gordon Green, SWCAA liaison Meta Schroeter; WWHD representative Monica Wheeler, and guest Mark Harper.

Meeting convened at 9:20 a.m.

Guest Mark Harper reviewed Town survey results comparing salaries for employee positions on a regional basis. Results revealed that compensation for some positions in Weston are notably lower than in other towns. Discussion ensued.

Discussion also focused on the increase in the work demanded of senior Center staff in light of the increase in the number of people using the Center, which has gone up significantly, especially over the last couple of years since the renovation. Wendy commented that expanding the staff is important to meet the rising need and Commissioners strongly support more staff hours as well as appropriate levels of compensation.

Dial-A-Ride/Transportation: Gordon distributed his monthly ride data report. He noted that the new bus trip to the Yale art museum went very well.

Minutes: January 9th minutes were approved by consensus.

Weston Social Services: Charlene discussed her upcoming budget request for 10 additional hours per week, which the Commission supports. Allison continues to help meet seniors' needs through coordination of the volunteer support network. Discussion ensued about CT State Elderly Protective Services and mandated requirements to report elder abuse or other potentially dangerous situations.

SWCAA: Meta reported on the latest meeting. Among other items, Meta said that SWCAA's Sharon Gesek will be visiting senior Center directors and municipal agents about current affordable housing issues and also reported that the next CHOICES counselor training will take place in June. Darien has raised their charges for senior lunches to \$5.

Weston Senior Activities Center: Wendy said that Monica will be leading the WWHD Live Well program at the Center in the spring. She reported that she is seeing new seniors coming to the Center each week. Gordon's office will be moving into the Center from the social services office, which will increase senior access and smooth coordination. September 24th is the date of the 2017 Classic Car Show fundraiser. Positioning of outdoor Center signs was briefly discussed.

Everyone is awaiting news of the First Selectman's Town operating budget and the senior services budget request, which included additional staffing hours for the upcoming fiscal year. The Center will offer information on how to choose your electric supplier; Bruce will help. The possibility of having Monica, Allison and others periodically coming to the Center for a Q&A session was also discussed.

WWHD Report: Monica shared some information and again briefly discussed the Live Well program that she'll be leading in Weston and noted that it's been well received when offered.

Commission: Helen reported on the ongoing work of P&Z on cluster housing and noted its potential to expand senior housing options.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Don Gumaer

Approved: 3-6-17