

Commission on Aging

Meeting

Senior Center

March 31, 2025 (for April)

The meeting began at 9:13 am.

Present: David Goodman; Richard Wolf; Terry Castellano; Allison Lisbon; Julia Braden

Fran Goldstein joined the meeting at 9:26 am

Minutes for March 3, 2025, approved.

Question regarding rules for quorum: Terry believes the quorum is based on the number of seats on the commission as stated in the Town Charter. David believes it may be based on only those appointed and that unfilled seats are discounted. David asked Terry to check with the Town Clerk regarding this question.

Aging Lecture Series: David proposed that the COA consider sponsoring a lecture on “Successful Aging” once a quarter. He hopes it will appeal cross-generationally. COA might partner with other organizations and/or towns. The speakers would be professionals. Discussion continued.

Dial-a-Ride: The service is running smoothly. There is no back up driver now.

Social Services: Energy assistance applications deadline is past. Warm Up Fund and tax abatement applications are underway.

Senior Activities: Julia said that “Friends” has been extremely supportive. More trips have been planned: examples are a trip to the

UN; a boat trip through Norwalk Harbor; a visit to Westport's Museum of Contemporary Art; and garden trips. An example of a new activity is a Tap dancing class. The exercise or "fitness" room renovations are progressing. Three high school students will be volunteering (there were more applicants than the Center could accommodate). The students will be assisting with lunches and activities.

Allison met with the head of campus security. It was a productive meeting. The staff at the Center may get Town employee identification badges. A monitor may be installed outside the Center building to enable staff to oversee outside activity.

Friends: Richard reported that a second donation has been received from the Thomas family. Theresa Brasco is completing an analysis of how many new families have contributed to the annual fundraiser. Friends are hoping to increase funding for the Parkinson's program. Discussion continued.

Other: Members discussed focusing on issues relevant to Weston seniors. The COA would synthesize this information and draw up a formal position statement(s). It was thought that Allison might ask seniors to present their pressing issues. David suggested that the COA create a record of where the COA stands on specific issues. The COA would also research as to where these statements/records should be posted. Discussion followed.

Adjournment: 10:10 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Terry Castellano