

COLUMBIA COMMISSION ON AGING
Minutes for 1/23/2019

Meeting called to Order at 9:02 AM

ATTENDING: CONA Members, Jill Livingston, Maggie Ewald, Millie Ramsey, Edith Prague, Cathie Rowe-DiGiovanni, Marjorie Golden-Mossberg, Lynn Buonocore, Bernadette Derring, Town Manager Mark Walters & Bruce Goldstein from Paradis Agency

Minutes from meeting on 11/28/18 read and accepted by a motion from Marjorie Golden-Mossberg and seconded by Maggie Ewald.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bernadette Derring: Coffee Station (proposals, quotes to be submitted for approval). Change from Landmark Tours to Friendship Tours secondary to better quality of tours (50 members signed up for upcoming cruise). Senior Center Team/Staff all pitched in to help while Bernadette was on leave.

Mark Walters: Still ongoing assessment of properties for housing project. Next step will be the evaluation of the property on Rte. 66 owned by the Catholic Church (approx. 15 acres). Will need town approval to access funds for testing of water, placement of sewers, etc. Possible invitation to our surrounding Town Planners with similar properties for discussion and guidance. Discussion on purchasing a Generator for the Beckish Senior Center and starting the "CERT" program.

Motion was made: "To Pursue Possible Purchase of Generator for Beckish Senior Center"

Bruce Goldstein – Paradis Agency

Rural development program started by Bruce Goldstein's parents for adults 62+ years of age and disabled adults. Managed under Federal Program USDA. HUD Assistance is accepted for some properties. CT has housing and tax programs only. Paradis Agency is mostly a Private Sector Builder involved in market rent apartment for the 55+ population. Apartment rental prices will depend on the area where built. Colchester rentals are as follows: 1 bedroom \$850, 2 bedroom \$1100. Lebanon rentals are as follows: 1 bedroom \$1250, 2 bedroom \$1500. Section 8 accepted. You cannot discriminate against "Out of Town" renters per the law. Most of the Paradis

units do not have back-up generators, but they do offer snow removal. They do require a “30 day notice” to be “let out of their lease”. Present waiting lists for their units are a year +. Must reapply for subsidize housing each year. Not having sewer water systems already in place can both slow-down and limit land development. Eight Units (2 per unit) or less can be sustainable by a well. All individual renters are responsible for their own well-being. CONA members are welcome to view the properties in Colchester/Lebanon in the upcoming warmer months. To check the CT/Federal Housing Laws for specifics on the Age of Renters and Disabled, based on income/subsidized.

Motion to adjourn at 10:15am A.M. made by Lynn Buonocore, seconded by Marjorie Golden-Mossberg.

Next meeting of Columbia Commission on Aging scheduled for 2/27/19 @ 9am.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jill Livingston