

## COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES

June 26, 2019

Meeting called to order @9:00am

Attending: CONA Members - Jill Livingston, Maggie Ewald, Catherine Rowe, Edith Prague and Marjorie Golden-Mossberg. Also in attendance were Senior Center Director, Bernadette Derring and Columbia Town Administrator, Mark Walter.

Minutes from meeting May 22, 2019 read and accepted by a motion from Edith Prague and seconded by Marjorie Golden Mossberg.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Bernadette Derring, Senior Center Director: Coffee station setup is complete. Van Usage is very busy and unable to meet growing transportation needs. Looking at cars/mini vans that could seat our seniors and be able to store a wheelchair, walker if needed. Would like the vehicle to be AWD and offer a minimum of 25 MPG. Received "Leased" Vehicle quotes from Subaru (2019 Subaru Forester), Honda (Odyssey-L & CRV 2019) and Chrysler Pacifica 2018. To meet with Jerry from Columbia Ford/Kia later today. Bernadette, Steve and Mark to meet the first week of July to discuss the above. Per Mark Walter, the next step would be putting this on the Board of Selectman Agenda for discussion once information is gathered. Bernadette to reach out to Senator Cathy Osten, Chairwoman of the Appropriations Committee regarding possible funds for such a vehicle. Joyce Nasin from "HAT" Hunger Action Team has offered to volunteer her time to the Columbia Senior Center as needed.

### **Senior Housing:**

Mark Walter: Still ongoing

Cathie Rowe: Looking into Grant Money thru "Sustainable Connecticut" ESCU. Also need survey done to back-up need for housing. Will contact Andrea Drabicki "Sustainable Connecticut" to reschedule meeting with CONA.

Cathie Rowe: Would like a "Housing" survey questionnaire to be in the July 2019 "Columbia Views" magazine. Will get the survey to Mark within the appropriate time for the next "Columbia Views" distribution.

### **Social Work – Access Update**

Bernadette Derring – Presently not receiving all services needed by senior center members.

Mark Walter – Grant money pays approx. \$14,000. Would need a Social Worker job description. Will contact East Haddam and Bernadette will contact Hebron for their Social Worker job description(s). May need to meet with other Town of Columbia departments to discuss existing problems.

Cathie Rowe: Will also add “Social Service Needs” survey questionnaire to the July 2019 “Columbia Views” magazine

Mark Walter – To check on cost of AHM membership. Will also speak with Joanne Doyle, EMT Fire Dept.

Mark Walter: May be able to utilize incoming interns for Housing and Social Services survey.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Cathie Rowe: CONA budget funds still available and need to be utilized before July 2019.

Bernadette: \$600 Community Outreach, \$592/\$200 for postage, envelopes, office supplies etc.

Motion made by Maggie Ewald and seconded by Jill Livingston to use some funds for specific postage, but was retracted by a motion from Edith Prague and Maggie Ewald secondary to lack of time allowance.

Motion was then made by Marjorie Golden-Mossberg and seconded by Edith Prague to utilize the \$600 for an upcoming reception to be held at the senior center to inform Columbia residents of the Housing and Social Service needs survey(s) results.

A motion was also made by Edith Prague and seconded by Jill Livingston to purchase postage, envelopes and office supplies as needed.

All purchases will be made prior to July 1, 2019 as required.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Marjorie Golden-Mossberg and seconded by Maggie Ewald.

Meeting was adjourned @ 10:25 am

Next CONA Meeting will be held on July 24, 2019

Minutes respectfully submitted by, Jill Livingston

