DRAFT

East Haddam Commission on Aging
COA Meeting Minutes
September 24, 2020

Present: Brad Parker, Joe Sina, Jo Golec, Barbara Davis, Jovita Cozean, Maureen Gillis, Mary Ellen Klinck, John Pagnani, Rob Smith
Absent: Sue Bostelman, Alice Sabo

Meeting called to order at 10:37 AM by J. Sina. M.E. Klinck and M. Gillis will sit in for absent members.

Minutes: No changes to the 1/23/20 Minutes. Minutes accepted by consensus. Meetings for March, May & July were not held due to COVID-19.

Treasurer's Report: No change.

Correspondence: None

Old Business:

- East Haddam Town-wide Survey: Response to the town-wide survey was better that expected. Approximately 70 paper surveys were turned in; a few were completed online. The consensus is to keep activities the same for now, look for activities that would be popular or suggested. The FaceBook page is getting more hits for Senior Center info. Senior Center info is also posted on the town website. M. Gillis offered to write an article for Events Magazine; and will coordinate with B. Parker about the suggestion of a welcome packet with town info, coupons, phone book, etc. for new residents. J. Sina will draft a letter to EDC Chair Irene Haines with the idea to start up the welcome packet.
- Senior Meals: There have not been congregate meals at the Senior Center since mid-March, only brown bag lunches. 3,600 lunches have been distributed from mid-March to the end of August. Congregate meals will most probably not happen this year;
  -Today there will be 34 lunches. B. Parker also adds a 'joke of the day' to each brown bag lunch;
  -CRT has done a good job for the 3 days per week that it delivers meals. The other 2 days, B. Parker has been getting lunches from Moodus BBQ. Next week is the last week for Moodus BBQ, as they are closing. Brad is speaking to several other businesses about lunch for the 2 days that Moodus BBQ filled. The majority of pick-up meals are given to people who really need it;
  -Nutmeg Pharmacy donated $4,000 worth of food: crackers, desserts, etc.;
  -B. Parker also received a monetary donation from Bob's Discount Furniture;
  -Donations also from Consumer Union, Bob Gagnon & E.H. Community Lions;
  -Every Tuesday, each household receives ½ gallon of milk, and every Monday a loaf of bread donated by members of the East Haddam Community Lions Club.
- COVID-19 Discussion
  -the Senior Center will be opening with restriction on 9/21. Tai Chi began after Labor Day (Tuesdays & Thursdays) outside. The parking lot is marked for 6' distancing and all equipment is sanitized after the class;
  -the Exercise & Computer rooms are open to 2 people at a time;
  -everyone who enters the building has their temperature taken, must wear a mask and use sanitizer;

New Business:

- Energy Assistance appointments are being taken for the end of October;
- Medicare Enrollment appointments are also being taken. J. Sina may also do phone screening. M. Gillis is in training for Medicare Enrollment screening;
- AARP cancelled all in-person driver training. This can be done online;
- Recommended for Reappointment to the E.H. COA Board for 3-year terms: Alice Sabo, Suzanne Bostelman & Jovita Cozean. Maureen Gillis and Mary Ellen Klinck were recommended for 1 year terms as Alternates. J. Pagnani made a motion for A. Sabo, S. Bostelman & J. Cozean to renew for 3-year terms and M. Gillis and M.E. Klinck to renew for 1-year terms. J. Golec seconded and motion carried. J. Sina made a motion for the officers to remain in their same position. Second by J. Pagnani and carried.

Coordinator's Report:

- In early September B. Parker sent a blast email to see if people are interested in coming back to the Senior Center amid COVID-19. There were 78 responses: 12 said no and 66 said yes, but with restrictions.

  -People are asking about restarting some of the programs;
  -Volunteer Appreciation Day: planned for October and will be held outside;
  -Tai Chi and Pilates will be held inside when the weather cools, but with social distancing and limited attendance;
  -The bus will start again next month with limited seating.

Selectman's Report

- R. Smith reported that precautions with masks, sanitizer, 6' distancing, voting booths, etc. will be taken for the election in November;
  -The Town has been providing sanitizer and masks to the Senior Center and Libraries.

The next COA Meeting is planned for November 19, 2020 at 10:30 at the Senior Center.

A motion to adjourn was made by J. Golec, seconded by J. Cozean and carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:44 AM

Respectfully submitted by,

Barbara Davis, Secretary