MANSFIELD COMMISSION ON AGING MINUTES

Meeting

June 12, 2023

Hybrid Meeting held via Mansfield Connecticut Streaming Channel and in person.

A. CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 9:33 AM by John Riesen, Chair

B. ACCEPTANCE OF PREVIOUS MINUTES:

John Riesen called for a motion to accept the May 8, 2023 minutes. The motion was made by Will Bigl and seconded by Joanne Sousa. Motion carried.

PRESENT: John Riesen (2024), Martina Wharton (2023), Joanne Sousa (2024), Sylvie DelaMotte (2023), Laura Austin (2024), David Stevens (2023), Will Bigl (2024), Nancy Trawick-Smith (2023).

ABSENT: Devon Hock (2023)

SPECIAL GUESTS: none

STAFF LIAISON MEMBERS PRESENT: Allison Maynard, Human Services Director; Representative; Mary Flood, Program Coordinator (filling in for Sarah Taylor, Senior Center Supervisor); Mary Attardo, Juniper Hill Village

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT ON LINE: none

C. Optional Reports on Services/Needs of Town's Aging Populations
- **a. Health, Social, Recreational and Educational Reports**

    1. Allison Maynard, LCSW Director of Human Services

Allison Maynard discussed a grant for a new refrigerator; Farms to Families has a couple open spots; renter's rebates has money available through October; the town and Eversource have separate lists of "At risk/vulnerable" residents in case of emergencies.

2. Senior Center Report: Mary Flood, Program Coordinator

Mary Flood discussed recent programs; upcoming summer programs; resident assistance and relief fund has money available for utility payments for low income residents. John asked about promotion of programs = currently using paper mailing of Senior Sparks, emails, Facebook posts. Could the Senior Center website include the info also?

b. WRTD REPRESENTATIVE: No WRTD meeting this month.

c. HOUSING REPRESENTATIVES UPDATES:

1. **Rolling Hills:** (Jensen's Park): the roads and water lines are completed; no guests allowed in pool reported by Will Bigl
2. **Glen Ridge:** Vacant.
3. **Juniper Hill Village:** Dial-A-Ride sent a speaker last month; no future fundraising is scheduled due to liability concerns; new TV in 4 season room; new outhouse by pavilion with cleaning station; UConn nutrition program scheduled reported by Mary Attardo

D. OLD BUSINESS:

a. What actions could/should the COA take regarding the Mansfield Senior Center.

John asked what the Commission recommends for the future Senior Center to the Town Council? Should there be a list of recommended features or preferred architects? Discussion regarding time frame - the Mayor stated we need a complete

formal plan to bring for a vote and don't expect to have that until after the 2024 Presidential election. Discussion regarding location - the town hall/Community Center property seems to be the front runner at this time. John will write up benefits for a new Senior Center for the fall Commision meeting.

b. The availability of Senior housing in Mansfield

Discussion regarding the 4 corners developments underway. The Affordable Housing Committee went before the Town Council to recommend that 15% of those units be set aside for age restricted apartments.

E. New Business:

Joanne brought up cinder block curbing by front door was broken creating a potential hazard. Allison informed us that Sarah had put in the request to maintenance some time ago and an insurance claim has been submitted for the cost of repairs.

F. Opportunity for the Public to address the Commission

There was a member of the public in attendance - but he left before he had a chance to address the Commission. (Could his name be Mr Rogers?)

G. Adjournment

A motion was made by Martina to adjourn the meeting. Sylvie seconded the motion. The motion carried.The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 AM.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2023 at 9:30am.

For more in depth information about what was discussed during the meeting, please refer to the June 12, 2023 Commission on Aging meeting which is on YOUTUBE.

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Laura Austin.