

**TOWN OF TRUMBULL  
CONNECTICUT**



Commission on Aging Meeting  
Friday, May 26, 2023  
Council Chambers, Trumbull Town Hall  
2:00 pm

**Present:** Chairman Michael Ganino, Mark Ryan, Evelyn Wiesner, Nancy Lucas, Alissa Heilbrunn, Debra Gilbert Taylor and Linda Randall

**Absent:** Ron Foligno

The meeting was called to order at 2:02 pm by Mr. Ganino.

**Public Comments**

No public comments. Ms. Gilbert Taylor introduced a relative who was visiting and interested in the activities of the Commission and the Senior Center.

**Approval of Meeting Minutes**

**Motion was made by Ms. Taylor Gilbert to approve the minutes of April 28, 2023 as written. Seconded by Mrs. Wiesner and approved by unanimous consent.**

**Secretary's Report**

No report.

**Senior Center Director's Report**

Mrs. Jakab was unable to attend the meeting due to another commitment. The following information was submitted by Ronnie Mogensen, Senior Center Coordinator:

1. Drama Club performances tentatively set for Thursday, August 10 and Friday, August 11.
2. Southwestern CT Agency on Aging will be at the Senior Center on June 8 at 11:00 am for a presentation on the programs, benefits and services they offer.
3. There is increased programming now that they are fully staffed - added movies back every month, additional bingo days, new rummikub group, a possible new bridge group starting, increased days for knitting, and working with more sponsors for presentations.
4. Caregiver Support Group begins in July. They will meet once a month and will be facilitated by Rita Mazzarello, MSW of Assisted Living Services, Inc and Jennifer Gillis, Trumbull Social Services.
5. The Trumbull Health Department completed their first Matter of Balance program for the Senior Center with nine graduates. Another program will be offered in late fall.

### **Chairman's Report**

1. Frenchtown Elementary School Pilot – Mr. Ganino reported the pilot went well and they will be reviewing the program with Dr. Semmel for next year. He hoped more seniors would participate now that the program has been a success.
2. Weekly Donations – discussion was held regarding additional volunteers to help pick up and unload the donations.
3. Café is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday with great meals for only \$5.00. It was noted the Food Pantry places donated food items out each day for the seniors to take.
4. Continuing to attend the Board of Education meetings. Cuts were made to their funding but it was unknown what cuts would be made within the system.
5. Donations are being solicited at Stop and Shop in Trumbull and Monroe by Veterans. These donations are used for scholarships to the schools and assistance to other organizations.
6. Monday is Memorial Day. There will be ceremonies at the Vietnam Memorial and Town Hall with the parade to follow.

### **Stern Village Report**

Ms. Mack was unable to attend the meeting.

### **Farmer's Market**

Mr. Ganino was unsure about the Senior Commission participation this year. They were given two dates to attend from the new organizers.

### **Food Pantry**

The pantry is full with donations as well as the five freezers and three refrigerators. Discussion was held regarding pick-up and distribution of donations. Containers are very heavy for the seniors to handle. They will be looking for assistance during the summer months.

### **Trumbull Business Discount Program**

Ms. Gilbert Taylor and Mr. Ryan continue to work on the document by removing/updating the names of businesses currently on the list and requesting information from Ms. Bakalar of new businesses in town. They will then distribute the list to the Commissioners to call and verify the business is willing to remain on the list. The original list had 72 participants. It was also noted that many of the businesses make donations and/or provide meals to the seniors outside of this list.

### **Facilities Committee Update**

Mr. Ryan noted the Environmental Study has been received but the Traffic Study needed to be redone. Architect drawings and parking were discussed. It was felt the Commission should be more proactive with the process and provide information regarding the seniors in the community and the need for a new facility. It was again noted that 30% of taxpaying residents are seniors in Trumbull. The Commission will work with the seniors to gather their support for a new center.

### **Creation of Sub-Committee**

**Motion was made by Mrs. Wiesner to create a sub-committee to work on the Trumbull Business Discount Program. Seconded by Ms. Lucas and approved by unanimous consent.**

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, motion was made by Ms. Randall to adjourn the meeting at 2:55 pm. Seconded by Mrs. Wiesner and approved by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall  
Clerk