

**TOWN OF TRUMBULL
CONNECTICUT**



Commission on Aging Meeting
Friday, June 23, 2023
Community Room, Stern Village
2:00 pm

Present: Ron Foligno, Mark Ryan, Evelyn Wiesner (entered at 2:03 pm), Nancy Lucas, Alissa Heilbrunn and Linda Randall

Also Present: Jennifer Gillis, Social Services; Paulette Mack, Executive Director of Stern Village and Cindy Katske, Chief Administrative Assistant (entered at 2:03 pm)

Absent: Michael Ganino and Debra Gilbert Taylor

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 pm by Mr. Foligno in the absence of Mr. Ganino.

Public Comments

No public comments.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

Motion was made by Ms. Lucas to approve the minutes of May 26, 2023 as written. Two corrections were noted by the Clerk – Under Approval of Meeting Minutes – name should read Ms. Gilbert Taylor; on Page 2, fifth paragraph, should read – Trumbull Business Senior Discount Program. **Seconded by Ms. Randall and approved with changes by unanimous consent.**

Mrs. Wiesner and Mrs. Katske entered the meeting at 2:03 pm

Secretary's Report

No report.

Senior Center Director's Report

Mrs. Gillis reported for Mrs. Jakab who was unable to attend the meeting.

1. Two members participated in Ms. Connecticut Senior American Pageant, Joy Koch and Melody Martin. Melody won the pageant and will go on to compete in Atlantic City.

2. A Senior Self Defense class will begin in August which will be taught by Rob LiBrandi from the Planning and Zoning Department. He is a Chief Instructor at Trumbull Academy of Karate.
3. A line dancing class will be starting in August that will take place over the course of eight weeks with instructor Tom Mohyde who comes very well recommended.
4. The Senior Center/Social Services has a new intern, Charlie, who will be helping out with the lunch program this summer and will also be hosting a few trivia programs.
5. Drama Club performances will be on August 10 and 11. Everyone is encouraged to attend.

Mrs. Gillis noted for Social Services specifically –

1. Continuing to help seniors with the Renters Rebate for Elderly/Disabled Program.
2. Senior Farmers' Market Nutrition Program vouchers should be available by the end of June. They will be in the form of debit cards this year.

Stern Village Report

Ms. Mack reported –

1. They have a new employee, Lisa Alhabal, who will be helping residents with various issues that may arise. She works Monday-Friday, 9am to 5pm.
2. Eleven units are available for rent in the Village.
3. Trumbull Helps will be sponsoring a cookout the last week in July.

Chairman's Report

No report.

Old Business

1. Seniors in Schools – discussion was held regarding the program. Mr. Foligno commented on the lack of volunteers and how they intend to speak with the principal and superintendent regarding changes for the new school year to improve the program. Recruitment of volunteers was discussed including information being sent to grandparents through students or the PTA who might be interested in the program but are not part of the Senior Center.
2. Discussion of Defibrillator Recently Approved – Mr. Foligno noted it was approved by the Town but it is unknown if it has been purchased. The Nursing Department would be the contact.
3. Diminishing Luncheon Participation – clarification of this topic was given. The luncheon program is growing in participation overall but numbers to eat in or take out fluctuate which may make it look like the numbers are decreasing. Many seniors take their lunches home for various reasons or bring lunches to other individuals who are unable to come to the Center. Participation numbers are increasing which could lead to a space problem for the program. Mrs. Jakab presented the following numbers for the last year:

July 2022	379	January 2023	421
August 2022	502	February 2023	414
September 2022	431	March 2023	505
October 2022	462	April 2023	504
November 2022	437	May 2023	506
December 2022	426	June 2023	TBD

4. Trumbull Business Senior Discount Program – details are being worked out for updating the information and a report will be given at the August meeting.
5. West Haven VA Food Prep and Feed – tabled.
6. COVID Booster/Shingrix – any individual interested in these vaccinations should contact the Trumbull Health Department for information.
7. Participation in Pantry/Stern Food Solicitations – discussion was held regarding pick-up of donations on the weekend. This would be a staffing problem.

New Business

No new business.

Next Meeting – August 25, 2023 at the Town Hall, Council Chambers. Discussion was held regarding the posting of meeting information at both the Senior Center and Stern Village so that anyone interested would be able to attend. The Commission on Aging serves all seniors in Trumbull not just members of the Senior Center. Discussion was held regarding responding to resident comments at the meetings. Mrs. Katske noted it is at the discretion of the chairman to decide whether or not questions would be answered during Resident Comments. Although it is good for residents to have a voice on topics, comments could be off topic from agenda items to be discussed. Any topics not in the purview of the group should be directed to the appropriate department/individual.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Ms. Lucas to adjourn the meeting at 2:33 pm. Seconded by Ms. Randall and approved by unanimous consent.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk