

Senior Citizen Commission – June 26, 2020

Trumbull Senior Citizen Commission Virtual Meeting

June 26, 2020

10:00 am

The Senior Citizen Commission of the Town of Trumbull held a virtual meeting on June 26, 2020.

Present: Chairman Marcy Kelly, Ron Foligno, Mark Ryan, Michael Ganino, Jean DaRold and Evelyn Wiesner

Also Present: Michele Jakab, Director of Human Services

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 am by Mrs. Kelly followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment

No public comment.

Past Minutes

Motion was made by Mr. Ryan to approve the minutes of May 22, 2020 as written. Seconded by Mrs. Wiesner and approved unanimously.

Secretary's Report

Mrs. DaRold had no report.

Director's Report

Mrs. Jakab noted the following:

1. The re-opening of senior centers in the state is still being discussed. Trumbull is trying to stay in-line with the other senior centers in the state and, in particular, in Fairfield County. Meetings have been held with various organizations including meetings with the Commissioner on Aging to discuss a possible re-opening in September. Re-opening plans will be re-evaluated in August. More information is needed. Mrs. Kelley questioned if ZOOM programs would still be an option once the center re-opens. Mrs. Jakab noted they would still be offered as there are still strict guidelines that will need to be followed limiting size of programs and classes. She noted they are engaging with new individuals who were previously unable to come to the center.
2. Jean Franco, the Center's clerk and trip coordinator, will be leaving the Senior Center for another position at an assisted living facility. Her last day will be July 6.
3. Programs – Most instructors have returned on ZOOM programs. They have had 20-30 participants in the classes. Art classes are full. Senior centers throughout the state will continue to offer on-line programs. They have been very good for everyone because they allow participation from home for individuals who can log in to different programs from other centers.
4. The Care Givers Support Group is up and running. This will start on ZOOM next week and will be run by the social worker. Ashley Sylvester, the Center's Social Worker, is on maternity leave, so the intern from last year is filling in.

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5. Rent rebate is moving forward at this time. A drop box has been placed outside of the Center and the State has waived most of the in person meetings.
6. Meals on Wheels and pantry services are still available. Grocery bag initiative is coming to an end that was funded under the Cares Act. However, they are able to continue this program through the generous donations received and it is available for the home bound and others who need assistance.
7. Financial assistance is available again with generous donations.

Chairman's Report

Mrs. Kelly had no report.

Old Business

Mr. Ryan noted Bridgeport Hospital had a ZOOM meeting with the President, CFO and the VP of Operations to discuss the status of COVID-19 and what they are doing in their hospital setting. At one point, they had 298 beds or 85% occupied with COVID patients. At the time of the meeting, they had under 40 beds or approximately 15%. The President stated she felt the hospital is a safer place to go than the grocery store and that not one patient in the hospital contracted the virus while in the hospital. It is now safe to come in for elective surgery and other procedures and they are spreading the word to the community.

New Business

Mrs. Kelly stated that Mr. Ganino's Magic Show on ZOOM was amazing.

Mrs. Kelly felt the friendly calls have been going well and encouraged anyone who would like to participate in this program to call the Center.

Adjournment

There being no further business, motion was made by Mr. Ganino to adjourn the meeting at 10:18 am. Seconded by Mr. Foligno and approved unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Crandall
Clerk