

WEST HARTFORD SENIOR CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

May 21, 2019

Members Present: Noreen Bachteler, Rosemary Cleary, Ray Guenter, Linda Hanson, Robert Kennedy, Mary Reilly, Donna Sterling
Absent: Ellen Phillips, Phil Walker.
Staff Present: Kathleen Faroni, Gina Marino, Keren Paquette
Guests: Kevin Farmer, Mary Margaret Girgenti, Barbara Roberts, Nancy Stockman

Acting Chairman Bob Kennedy called the meeting to order at 10 am.

The minutes for the April 16th meeting were approved unanimously.

Chair's Report

Bob noted that Phi attended the MDC meeting with David Silverstone who discussed potential changes with how the town pays.

West Hartford Volunteers and Food Pantry

Barbara Roberts, who is one of the coordinators of volunteers for West Hartford Social Services, recruits volunteers to support primarily the programs for seniors and families and people with disabilities. Programs include shopping, medical escort transportation, friendly visitor, telephone reassurance, and tutoring at Hillcrest. Training of volunteers is provided. There are about 100 active volunteers now who provide service to over 75 individuals.

Nancy Stockman is the part-time Food Pantry Coordinator. Over 6,300 bags were distributed last year. 25% of the children in WH are eligible for free or reduced lunch. Wednesdays are self-select days at the Food Pantry. There is home delivery of prepacked bags., the Federal Commodities program, Whole Foods and Foodshare are among the donors of foods. Eligibility is based on income and family size.

West Hartford Social Services

Keren Paquette spoke about substance abuse prevention week tables at the senior centers. There are 4 contenders for Dial-A-Ride and extending the routes and categories may be possible. The ALICE Report will be presented at a community resources fair at Town Hall on June 5.

Transportation

Kevin Farmer reported that the 10th Anniversary Celebration was April 24. The Hartford Foundation for Public Giving made a challenge grant of \$9,000 from a Donor Advised Fund for the purpose of adding a part-time paid coordinator to the staff. Rides are provided for medical situations to low income people (up to 4 per week) and all eye care appointment rides are free.

Senior Centers

See attached.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, September 17th at 10:00am.

The meeting adjourned at 12:00 noon.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Lynn Silverman, Recording Secretary