

# WEST HARTFORD SENIOR CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMISSION

## MINUTES

May 15, 2018

Members Present: Noreen Bachteler, Rosemary Cleary, Ray Guenter, Linda Hanson, Robert Kennedy, Ellen Phillips, Mary Reilly, Donna Sterling, Philip Walker  
Staff Present: Keren Paquette  
Guests: Kevin Farmer, Maureen McIntyre

Chairman Philip Walker called the meeting to order at 10:01am.

The Minutes of the April 17, 2018 meeting were approved unanimously.

### ***Chairman's Report***

Phil Walker announced that Medicare Savings Plan was restored to its original level. He attended a conference of the opioid advisory commission and asked the Commission for approval to support its efforts. This motion was approved.

### ***West Hartford Social Services***

Keren Paquette commended the advocacy efforts that helped ensure that the Medicare Savings Plan was restored. Dial-A-Ride does not go to nursing homes and assisted living facilities. The pilot program that funded rides at the Court of St James and Canterbury has been eliminated. She has met with residents to explore other options. Astrid Calderone is reviewing Curtin's program; the contract is up next year. Energy Assistance has ended. Rental Rebates are available through 9/30; appointments can be made at Town Hall, the Senior Centers or Senior residences.

### ***Transportation***

Kevin Farmer reported that the US Senate gave ITN America a proclamation There is a driver's workshop on Monday, June 4 at 5:30 on pedestrian and bicyclist safety.

### ***Seniors Job Bank***

No report.

### ***Maureen McIntyre, North Central Area on Aging***

There are 5 areas on aging in Connecticut. They are private non-profits that were funded through the 1965 Older Adult Act. Approximately 77% of the funding covers Meals on Wheels, Chore Services and Greater Hartford Legal Aid. The organization reviews grant proposal with a focus on access to innovative programs. The agency has Direct Service Programs such as Choices, National Family Caregiver Support Program, Aging Resource Center, Chronic Disease Self-Management Education Programs, CT Home Care for Elders, and Senior Medicare Patrol. Programs are focused on helping older adults stay in their homes.

### ***Senior Centers***

Reports are attached.

### ***New Business***

June meeting – Rep. Joe Verrengia, and Jean Schensul from the Institute for Community Research.

Ideas for future meetings:

The new Police Chief

Senator Beth Bye and Representative Derrick Slap

The Bridge Family Center re: grandparents raising grandchildren/seniors counseling

Tax relief

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15th at 10:00am.

The meeting adjourned at Noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Lynn Silverman

Volunteer Recording Secretary