

WEST HARTFORD SENIOR CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMISSION

MINUTES

January 21, 2020

Members Present: Rosemary Cleary, Robert Kennedy, Ellen Phillips, Donna Sterling, Philip Walker.
Absent: Noreen Bachteler, Ray Guenter, Linda Hanson, Mary Reilly
Staff Present: Kathleen Faroni, Gina Maroni, Keren Paquette
Guests: Kevin Farmer, Mary Margaret Girgenti, Pamela Hilborn, Joe Kolczynski, Richard Rothstein, Jim Schwartzhaupt, Mary Silverberg,

Chairman Philip Walker called the meeting to order at 10:04 am.

The minutes for the November 19th meeting were approved unanimously.

Chair's Report

Phil Walker said there are no speakers today and suggested the members discuss the issues they would like to have brought to the attention of the Mayor and Town Manager at the February meeting. He asked that members email him with their suggestions.

West Hartford Social Services

Keren Paquette announced that there is a February 13th legislative forum at Town Hall. A part-time staffer person is now filling the open full-time position. Dial-A-Ride is going to the Court of St. James and Canterbury. Energy Assistance is going well.

Seniors Job Bank

Mary Margaret Girgenti reported that there is an uptick in people interested in using services, especially the business community. Sheila Diamond and Bernie Weiss attended the legislative session on age discrimination in employment. New computers have been installed and a new IT consultant is on board.

Transportation

Mary Silverberg and Joe Kolczynski reported that the most rides ever were in 2019 – 2,426. There are now 12 low income riders in West Hartford. The Fisher Foundation has given a \$9,000 challenge grant to hire a part-time staff person.

Senior Centers

See attached. CRT is cutting back the lunch program at Elmwood. Gina Marion will be out on medical leave.

Other Business

A motion was made and approved that Derek Slap be commended in his efforts to support his bill on age discrimination. Phil will notify Derek of this motion.

The next meeting of the Commission is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18 at 10:00am.

The meeting adjourned at 11:14am.

Respectfully submitted,
Amy Lynn Silverman, Recording Secretary