

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
KILLINGWORTH COMMITTEE ON AGING

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 at 5:00 p.m.

Killingworth Town Hall

Members in Attendance: Joan Gay, Bill Joyce (Arrived at 5:37 p.m.), Joyce Mason, and Ex-officio Member, Mercedes Riccuiti, Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Members Absent: None.

Visitors/Special Guests: Sandy Allard, Nancy Gorski and Jamie Sciascia (Via Remote)

Called to Order: The meeting was Called to Order at 5:05 p.m. by Joan Gay, Chair

Roll Call: Chair Gay took a roll call of all Committee Members and Visitors/Special Guests who were in Attendance.

Correspondence: None.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1 - Joyce Mason *Moved* and Joan Gay *Seconded* a motion to accept the Minutes from the Committee on Aging Meeting that was held on December 27, 2023 as presented.

Voting to Approve: J. Gay, J. Mason

Motion unanimously passed (2-0-0).

Clerk Invoice:

Clerk Sciascia reported that she will have an invoice ready for the Committee's review and approval at the next meeting scheduled in February.

Follow Up - Survey Results:

A discussion was held about the Survey for the Identification of Seniors. The topics covered included: NewComers Club, Housing and Taxes, Adding in Benches at Parmelee Farms, Adding Senior Parking Space Closer to the Pavilion, Investigating Better Parking for Helping Hands Food Pantry/Possibility of Food Bag Items Pick up at Jensen's Clubhouse, Safety and Speeding on 81, Nutrition and Food, Senior Lunches, New Helping Hands Sign, Health and Safety (Senior Resources Eastern CT Agency on Aging, Pre-Made Pantry Bags, Affordable Housing Concerns, Local Pharmacy providing flu shots, Additional Transit Stop at Beechwood.

Chair Gay will put in an Addendum in the Report saying after the deadline that she received additional Survey numbers.

Board of Selectmen - Jan 22 at 7pm

Planning and Zoning Commission - Feb. 20 at 7pm

Board of Finance - TBA

Park and Recreation Commission - TBA

Health and Safety Committee - TBA

Region #17 Board of Education - TBA

Youth and Family Services - TBA

Chair Gay will present to the Board of Selectmen the links that Joyce Mason gathered for Housing and Taxes.

Chair Gay will update the Health Report that Joyce Mason put together in the past with links. Chair Gay spoke with Clerk Sciascia about the possibility of creating a format with more graphics for Seniors that could be printed out and available at the Town Hall, Library, Pharmacy and anywhere else in Town that would be beneficial.

Chair Gay indicated that the Programs Activity Research Group needs to be activated. Chair Gay stated that The Estuary is open to coming to Killingworth but it is based on supply and demand, noting they need an amount of 8 people to run their programs. Bill Joyce volunteered to find out how many Seniors are showing up at The Estuary in Clinton.

Chair Gay will attend on February 21st at 10:00 a.m. at the Beechwood Community Center Meeting in order to answer any questions the Seniors might have on the Survey. First Selectman Couture will be present as well.

Action Item: Mercedes Ricutti will bring the next Press Release by the Senior Resources Eastern CT Agency to the next COA meeting from them.

Action Item: Sandy Allard will present to the KWO Board meeting at its February meeting the possibility of making pre-made food pantry bags and then bringing them to Beechwood for Seniors to pick up, noting she isn't sure of the estimated cost. Bill Joyce will check with the Beechwood Community to see if other Seniors from the Town can stop at the Beechwood

property, if they don't reside in the Community. This would also eliminate traffic concerns at the pantry.

Report - Communications Research Group:

Mercedes Ricutti and Bill Joyce presented a list of communication avenues that included Newspapers the Source, HK Now, Beechwood Newsletter, Killingworth Websites, Town Websites, All Things Killingworth and Churches.

Senior Center:

Chair Gay spoke about how hard it has been to locate a Senior Center location, noting the possibility of using the Town Shed, and further noting that grants for spaces are not available as of yet. Chair Gay reviewed with the Committee the job description for a part-time Coordinator that it will be presented to the Board of Selectmen and included in their proposed Budget.

Old Business:

Mercedes Ricutti reported that Bill Joyce and she met and she spoke about the Fuel Assistance Program and the Renters Rebate Program being offered to the Seniors in Town. Mercedes suggested putting a Signup Sheet at the Library for Seniors that don't have computers at home in order to receive communication by providing their name and address.

New Business:

Chair Gay advised that there will be two new Committee Members joining the Committee on Aging Group shortly. Chair Gay suggested that a research group be created in order to take on this role of creating this Newsletter and members will be herself, Sandy Allard and one new Committee member.

Budget:

Chair Gay is developing a Budget for the 2024-25 fiscal year. Joyce Mason suggested including in the Budget the Restoration of the \$1,600 that was previously allocated and to increase it by \$200.00. The \$1,600 was in the Budget pre-covid and not included in the Budget after covid.

Next Regular Meeting: February 28, 2024:

Motion #2 - Joan Gay *Moved* and Bill Joyce *Seconded* a motion to change the 2024 Committee on Aging Regular Meetings start time to 5:30 p.m.

Voting to Approve: J. Gay, B. Joyce, J. Mason

Motion unanimously passed (3-0-0).

Adjournment:

Motion #3 - Bill Joyce ***Moved*** and Joan Gay ***Seconded*** a motion to adjourn the meeting at approximately 7:04 p.m.

Voting to Approve: J. Gay, B. Joyce, J. Mason

Motion unanimously passed (3-0-0).

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Clerk