

MINUTES
MEETING OF THE KILLINGWORTH
COMMITTEE ON AGING
Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at 5:30 p.m.
Via GoToMeeting

Members in Attendance: Joan Gay, Cheryl Fine, Bill Joyce, Joyce Mason, and Margaret Tobelman

Members Absent: Ex-officio Member, Mercedes Riccuiti, Municipal Agent for the Elderly

Visitors: Sandy Allard, Kate Moran, Jean Panciera, Mary Solera and Jamie Sciascia (Via Phone)

Called to Order: The meeting was Called to Order at 5:30 p.m. by Joan Gay, Chair

Roll Call: Chair Gay took a Roll Call of all Committee Members and Visitors who were in attendance at tonight's meeting.

Communications: No Report.

Approval of Minutes:

Motion #1 - Bill Joyce ***Moved*** and Joyce Mason ***Seconded*** a motion to approve the Minutes from the Committee on Aging Meeting that was held on May 22, 2024 as presented.

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

Voting to Abstain: C. Fine, M. Tobelman (not in attendance for this meeting)

Motion passed (3-0-2).

Motion # 2 - Joyce Mason ***Moved*** and Joan Gay ***Seconded*** a motion to approve the Minutes from the Committee on Aging Meeting that was held on June 26, 2024 as presented.

Voting to Approve: J. Gay, J. Mason

Voting to Abstain: C. Fine, B. Joyce, M. Tobelman (not in attendance for this meeting)

Motion passed (2-0-3).

Approval of Clerk's Invoice:

Motion #3 - Joyce Mason ***Moved*** and Bill Joyce ***Seconded*** a motion to approve the Clerk's Invoice in the amount of \$300.00 as presented.

Voting to Approve: C. Fine, J. Gay, B. Joyce, J. Mason, M. Tobelman

Motion unanimously passed (5-0-0).

Report from Municipal Agent for the Elderly - Mercedes Riccuiti:

Chair Gay reported (on Mercedes behalf since she wasn't in attendance) that she has been preparing for the upcoming Fuel Assistance Program and also is in the process of preparing to send out a letter in August to the 60+ residents. Mercedes will also be working on a Press Release for the media contacts in order to help residents apply for the Fuel Assistance Program. Mercedes is still administering the last minute applicants for the Renters Rebate Program. Lastly, Mercedes reported that during the summer months it is her quiet time so her hours are set to a minimum. Mercedes continues to answer emails/phone calls on a daily basis for Social Service issues. Mercedes noted that once Fuel Assistance begins, her hours will increase by almost double.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors:

Chair Gay reported that Alli Benhke from Youth and Family Services did not receive any volunteers from Killingworth residents. Chair Gay recommended to the Committee that in order to reach the targeted group within Killingworth, she will contact Alli Benhke regarding sending a Press Release out using the Committee's communication strategy (AllThingsKillingworth, The Source, HK Now, etc.) There was a Consensus of the Committee to move forward with this plan.

Status of UR Community Cares:

Chair Gay reported that there was an excellent article in the July 21, 2024 St. Lawrence Bulletin regarding the St. Lawrence Catholic Church and Sun Communities donating \$500 towards UR Community Cares program. The article addressed the services that the UR Community Cares provides and why the \$100 per individual fee is needed. Chair Gay also reported that it lists out the contact information in order to send in contributions to the: Board of Selectmen, UR Community Cares, Executive Director, Michelle Puzzo, or UR Community Cares Volunteer, Mercedes Riccuiti. Committee Member, Joyce Mason, reported this article appeared also in the Congregational Church. Committee Member, Bill Joyce, reported that there have been two people who have utilized the program outside of the Beechwood Community and it was successful.

Affordable and Senior Housing Research Report:

Chair Gay and Committee Member Joyce Mason met and compiled their research into one main report. The Affordable and Senior Housing Report is coming before the Committee tonight for approval. Chair Gay will contact the Board of Selectmen and the Planning and Zoning Commission for a date to discuss the report.

Committee Member, Bill Joyce, thanked Chair Gay and Joyce Mason for their impressive work with their research.

Motion #4 - Bill Joyce *Moved* and Joyce Mason *Seconded* a motion to approve the Affordable and Senior Housing Report and present it to the Board of Selectmen and the Planning and Zoning Commission.

Voting to Approve: C. Fine, J. Gay, B. Joyce, J. Mason, M. Tobelman

Motion unanimously passed (5-0-0).

Events: Prioritized List and Status:

Chair Gay continued her review with the Committee identifying priorities for Seniors within the Community in terms of High, Medium or Low.

Chair Gay and Researcher Sandy Allard will meet to come up with a schedule for events with presenters already identified and contacted.

- *ID, Theft and Scams: Eric Basoli, Statewide Legal Services of Connecticut, Inc.*
- *Medicare: Estuary Roundtable Facilitator, Carlos Maybard*
- *Health Related Issues, Angelat Christie, Hartford HealthCare Healthy Aging Single Programs.*

Chair Gay confirmed with Director of Finance Regolo that there is a budget for the Committee of Aging of \$2,000.

Old Business: None.

New Business: Chair Gay reported that she spoke with First Selectman Couture and he is still in the process of waiting to hear back from the Town Attorney regarding the Committee becoming a Commission. Chair Gay will follow up with Couture periodically for an update.

Next Meeting: August 28, 2024:

Chair Gay reported that the next Committee Meeting is scheduled for August 28, 2024. The Committee discussed the possibility of canceling the August meeting as well as continuing to hold meetings in a remote fashion versus in person. The Consensus of the Committee was to continue to hold the meetings via remote as well as in person, twice a year.

The Committee thanked Chair Gay for her continued Leadership.

Adjournment:

Chair Gay adjourned the meeting at approximately 6:45 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sciascia
Clerk