

Commission on Aging Brookfield, CT Regular Monthly Meeting June 4, 2014

Betsy called the meeting to order at 12:03

Present - Kevin, Ellen, Carol, Betsy, Emily, Reet, Marilyn

The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as presented.

SENIOR CENTER / SOCIAL SERVICES

According to Ellen, May has been a very busy month at the Center. A new hiking group has been formed. Tuesday evening programs are going well and will continue through the summer. Brookfield High School students are assisting seniors with their kindles, cell phones, iPads and the like. A Mother's Day tea was held on the ninth of this month. The Lunch and Learn programs are always well received. New library furniture is in place thanks to the money raised by the Friends of the Brookfield Senior Center. At the end of the month, forty-eight people traveled to Montreal and Quebec City Canada. The garden has been planted; soon food that is grown will be sent to the Food Pantry which has seen a modest increase in use over May of last year. New households have been added. Many people hear about the Food Pantry through word of mouth. Until October 1, 2014, Jeanette will be helping renters who are elderly or disabled, and whose income does not exceed certain limits, apply for a rent rebate from the state of CT. The Back to School Backpacks Program will begin near summer's end. May is generally a quiet time for Social Services giving staff and volunteers a chance to evaluate and plan for the coming year.

FISH

Marilyn scheduled twenty-one rides for those who used our transportation service, making it the busiest month ever. After some discussion, we decided we would do our best to accommodate Brookfield residents who are in care facilities and need rides to medical appointments within our five town region. Betsy will schedule rides this month; Carol will handle July scheduling.

BROOKFIELD COA

Carol will distribute a contact list showing phone numbers and E-mail addresses of commission members. Before next month's meeting, commissioners volunteered to work on the Resource Guide changing and checking phone numbers used in the Newtown Guide and adapting them for Brookfield's guide. (Carol A-C. Emily D-G. Kevin H-M, Reet N-R Betsy S-Z.) Kevin reported because the Federal government funds affordable housing projects there is little we can do to offer suggestions because of the stiff requirements that come with the funding. We were encouraged to read Connecticut's State Department on Aging Executive Summary which outlines the goals and strategies that will be implemented over the next three years to better serve older adults. Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 2.

ADJOURNMENT 12:40

Meeting notes submitted by Carol Howe