

Commission on Aging Meeting Notes
January 23, 2023 at 2:30pm
Town Hall Small Conference Room, 400 Main Street

The Commission on Aging meetings will be conducted under Roberts Rules of Order and all participants are expected to conduct themselves with dignity and treat all those present with respect, empathy and civility.

Present: Joe Ternullo, George Noyes, Debra Franceschini, Clem Saleeby, Carmen Martin, Karen Guadian, Tony Phillips.

Absent: Andrea Beebe, Maureen Culhane

Meeting called to order at 2:37pm.

- Public Comment: Steve Conner introduced himself with interest in joining the commission.

- Debra made a motion to add annual officer elections to the agenda, as she forgot to do so. All were in favor of adding to agenda. An overview of Secretary and Chair responsibilities was done. After further discussion, the commission unanimously voted to hold off until February meeting for votes when the entire board would be there and give new members a chance to digest the information reviewed.

- Welcome New Members: Clem Saleeby and Carmen Martin were welcomed to the team as new commissioners.

- Library Event on Estate Planning Debrief: 36 people live, 41 via Zoom. Zoom management was a bit clunky, but overall a very successful event.

- February Event Confirmation: 2023 Federal & State Income Tax Season: The Essentials

February 7th @ 1:00pm: This educational learning session is brought to you in collaboration with the [Ridgefield Commission on Aging](#) as part of its 2023 Speaker Series. The program will be presented in person in the Library's Main Program Room and online via Zoom.

AARP Foundation Tax-Aide provides in-person and virtual tax assistance to anyone, free of charge, with a focus on taxpayers who are over 50 and have low to moderate income. Tax-Aide volunteers are trained and IRS-certified every year to make sure they know about and understand the latest changes and additions to the tax code. Jon Elkow leads the AARP Foundation Tax-Aide program for Ridgefield. Come join us, meet Jon,

learn about some of the new tax changes and book your appointment to have your 2022 tax returns prepared. Appointments are limited and fill up fast!

Agenda:

1:00 pm – 2:00 pm: Educational Learning Session and Q & A

2:00 pm – 2:30 pm: Refreshments and Networking

[Register here.](#)

-2023 Goals-Addressing Senior Isolation: One of the repeated asks by the BOS at meetings where commissioners are appointed or reappointed, is how do make sure we're reaching all seniors, especially those who are isolated and homebound with very little or no access to the Internet.

Actions: Do more outreach/to have seniors added to Ridgefield CT Alerts. Create a master list of all seniors in our community beginning with obtaining the attendee list from our information session today, library Senior emails, Founders Hall, Rec Center, RUOK, Meals on Wheels and other civic organizations.

Actions: Joe, Carmen and Clem agreed to be the monthly writers for the Senior Scene for publishing in the Press and other media outlets.

-Senior Guide Booklet Update: Joe and Debra have been working on edits to the booklet made by our Senior intern last summer. Once the draft is completed, they will share with commissioners for further review, and next steps

-Charter Revision Recommendation: Debra discussed the possibility of submitting a request to the charter revision committee to change the commissioner terms from 3 years to 2 years to assist with commissioners recruitment.

-Old Business: Updating our website correct misinformation. Debra gather all changes that need to be made and work with town hall to update. Transportation information business cards.

-New Business: Transportation was discussed as a subject for our March Information Session at the library.

-Next regular meeting is February 27th.

Respectfully Submitted By,
Debra Franceschini
Commission on Aging Secretary

2023 Meeting Schedule & Attendance

January 23-

Present: Joe Ternullo, George Noyes, Debra Franceschini, Clem Saleeby, Carmen Martin, Karen Guadian, Tony Phillips.

Absent: Andrea Beebe, Maureen Culhane

February 27

March 20

April 17

May 15

June 26

July –Summer Recess

August – Summer Recess

September 18

October 16

November 20

December 18

Thanks,

Debra Franceschini-Gatje