Special Meeting of the Commission on Aging

Small Conference Room. Lower Level

Town of Ridgefield, CT 06877

Meeting Location: Town Hall

400 Main Street

Ridgefield, CT 06877

Small Conference Room

Meeting Date: July 7, 2025 Meeting Time: 10:00AM

Meeting Attendees:

Commissioners Patricia Yaffa, Carmen Martin, Chris Nolan, Dan Tewes, Margie Mullin, Maureen Culhane, Debi Orr and John Richards

Non Commissioner attendees: Karen Gaudian.

Meeting Minutes:

Start Time: 10:02 AM. End Time: 11:08AM.

A Special Meeting was called to order by Co-Chair Yaffa at 10:02 am.

First item discussed was to expand our previously identified recipients of a COA Commendation by three additional volunteers (one student and two adults). A motion was made by Mr. Tewes to add the names of Rutvi Vohra, Carolina Gahagan and Dee Tufariello to also receive commendations, seconded by Ms. Orr, Motion approved unanimously. Arranging for the Commendations to be completed and delivered will be taken care of by co-chairs Patty Yaffa and Chris Nolan.

Second item The COA considered the purchase of merchandise to be distributed at the Summerfest community event on July 26. The source of funds for this purchase is money from a grant of the Leir Foundation. Such money is restricted to be used for communication. Co Chair Patty Yaffa presented consideration of giveaway pens as well as for giveaway tote bags—labeled with COA insignia. It was moved by Mr Tewes and seconded by Ms. Orr that we allocate the expenditure of this money for such giveaways. Vote carried unanimously. A discussion followed. Members of the COA will follow up with quotes on various bags and pens. COA members and volunteers will be manning a table at Summerfest. Slots are filled from 9 am – 3 pm. We have requested some help with set up and breakdown from the Boys and Girls Club of Ridgefield.

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Third item discussed was further review of 2025-2026 priorities, Commissioners discussed and confirmed their interests of involvement.

Fourth item discussed was to establish the frequency of when to hold another “Senior Spectacular Expo”. Motion was made by Mr Tewes, seconded by Ms. Nolan to have a Senior Expo in 2026. Motion failed. Mr Richards made a motion to offer the Senior Epo every other year with a caveat to promote social media and research a new need for funds collected. Discussion followed. Vote was 6 ayes, 1 nay and 1 abstention. Motion carried.

Minutes submitted by Patricia Yaffa, Co-Chair Commission on Aging