

TOWN OF FRANKLIN  
**COMMISSION ON AGING**

*The Town of Franklin is an equal opportunity provider and employer.*

FRANKLIN SENIOR CENTER

5 TYLER DRIVE

FRANKLIN, CONNECTICUT 06254

*The mission of the Franklin Commission on Aging is to provide information and services to the aging population, their families, and their care providers.*

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**AGENDA**  
**REGULAR MEETING**  
**COMMISSION ON AGING**  
**FRANKLIN SENIOR CENTER**  
**12:30 PM**  
**TUESDAY, JUNE 12, 2018**

- 1) CALL TO ORDER
- 2) RECOGNITION OF VISITORS
- 3) ADDITIONS TO AGENDA
- 4) APPROVAL OF MINUTES
- 5) REVIEW OF REPORTS:
  - A) MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY
  - B) SENIOR CENTER PROGRAM COORDINATOR
  - C) MEAL SITE MANAGER
- 6) OLD BUSINESS:
  - A) UPDATE ON TELEPHONE, TELEVISION, AND PICNIC TABLE
- 7) NEW BUSINESS:
  - A) REVIEW OF UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS
- 8) ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT COMMISSION MEETING
- 9) ADJOURNMENT

*THOMAS SHAKUN, CHAIR*  
*COMMISSION ON AGING*



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THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE FRANKLIN COMMISSION ON AGING HELD  
AT THE FRANKLIN SENIOR CENTER AT 12:30  
P.M. ON TUESDAY, THE 8<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY, 2018

CALL TO ORDER: Chair Thomas Shakun called the meeting to order at 12:45 p.m. PRESENT: Commission Members Margaret Ayer, Susan Dagenais, Alison Dvorak, Donald Eccleston, Judy Marrotte, Judi Novosad, and Laura Wheeler.

RECOGNITION OF VISITORS: John Garosshen and Maraiah Popeleski.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA: Mr. Shakun added Presentation by Maraiah Popeleski to the next item of business and Discussion of Appointment of John Garosshen to the next item of business after that.

PRESENTATION BY MARAIAH POPELESKI: Mr. Shakun introduced Ms. Popeleski, the Director of the Senior Nutrition Program for Thames Valley Council for Community Action. Ms. Popeleski provided an overview of the congregate meals program and the meals on wheels program, with Franklin being one of the 39 towns that TVCCA serves. She noted that each town or agency is surveyed each year to ensure that needs are being met, and that TVCCA incorporates the suggestions received into the program. She noted that the forms given to diners are voluntary, but that federal funding to TVCCA is based on the number of participants receiving meals, and that the federal government only counts the participants who have submitted the form. She noted that there are many optional questions on the form, but that TVCCA only needs name and birthdate to have the form be counted. She also noted that diners can choose to forego the form and pay the price of the meal out of pocket instead. Ms. Popeleski also noted that while TVCCA accepts donations, any contributions are completely voluntary and anonymous. Discussion was held on the types and quality of the congregate meals served. Mr. Eccleston and Mr. Garosshen noted that the fajita meal served at the Bozrah Senior Center tasted too salty; Ms. Popeleski responded that salt was sparingly used in meals but that she would follow up with the chef, and would always welcome feedback like that. Mrs. Ayer noted that there were several meals that appeared on the monthly calendar that Franklin never got to try because they did not receive congregate meals on those days; Ms. Popeleski responded that she could switch days around and that Franklin could always request different meals in advance. The Commission thanked Ms. Popeleski for her presentation. Ms. Popeleski left the meeting.

DISCUSSION OF APPOINTMENT OF JOHN GAROSSHEN: Mr. Shakun noted that Mr. Garosshen would like to become a member of the Commission. The clerk will ask the Board of Selectmen to act on appointing him. Mr. Eccleston noted that his daughter, with whom he lives, may be moving out of Franklin. The Commission noted that they hoped he could still attend

programs at the center and remain a member of the Commission; Mr. Eccleston noted that transportation may be an issue. Discussion followed on possible rideshares.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Mrs. Novosad made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 10<sup>th</sup>. Mrs. Dvorak seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

**REVIEW OF REPORTS:**

- A) **MUNICIPAL AGENT FOR THE ELDERLY:** Mrs. Wheeler reported that she had fielded eighteen telephone calls and provided information on medical services, home-based care, and social services.
- B) **SENIOR CENTER PROGRAM COORDINATOR:** Mrs. Wheeler reported that the regular monthly activities of Bingo, Birthday Celebrations, Coffee and Conversation, and Games had been held, and the musical group Woodsmoke had performed at the center. She also reported that four trips had been taken: to the Senior Expo at the Holiday Inn followed by lunch at the Caddy Shack in Norwich; to the Bozrah Pizza Restaurant; to the Willimantic Brewing Company and Main Street Café; and to The Shack Restaurant in Groton. Mrs. Wheeler reported that a new member had joined the program. She also reported that 53 people attended the events at the senior center, and 59 people attended the trips.
- C) **MEAL SITE MANAGER:** Mrs. Dagenais reported that she had served 13 meals a week during three weeks of congregated meals at the center.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

- A) **APPROVAL OF BROCHURE:** Mrs. Dvorak presented a brochure featuring art work by Mr. Eccleston and Mrs. Marrotte. Mrs. Wheeler made a motion to approve the design of the brochure and begin distribution. Mrs. Novosad seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.
- B) **UPDATE ON SAFETY AND MAINTENANCE ISSUES:** Mrs. Wheeler reported that she had not heard back from Comcast on her request for a donation of a television. Mrs. Novosad recommended purchasing one from the center's budget after the temporary spending freeze enacted by the Board of Finance has ended. Mrs. Wheeler reported that the air conditioning control panel is not working. First Selectman Charles Grant arrived at the meeting at 1:35 p.m. and apologized for his lateness. The Commission updated him on the safety and maintenance issues under discussion. Mr. Grant fixed the air conditioning control panel, and said that he would complete the purchase of a television for the center if Mrs. Wheeler sent him the specifications. Mrs. Dagenais noted that picnic table had been damaged by a plow truck; Mr. Grant responded that he would have the damaged table removed and that he would have it replaced if the center wanted a new one, but make sure it was relocated away from the edge of the parking lot by next winter.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A) **REVIEW OF UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS:** Discussion was held on Mr. Eccleston, and possibly his daughter as well, leading an art class at the senior center. The only materials that would need to be purchased would be paper and colored

pencils. Mrs. Wheeler will coordinate a date for this. Mrs. Dvorak also suggested coordinating with the Janet Carlson Calvert Library on some of the summer programming that the library offers.

**ANNOUNCEMENT OF NEXT MEETING:** This will be held at the senior center at 12:30 p.m. on June 12<sup>th</sup>.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mrs. Novosad and the clerk both had to leave the meeting. Mrs. Dvorak made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Wheeler seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

**RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,  
TRACI L. HASTINGS, CLERK  
COMMISSION ON AGING**

