

## **TOWN OF HADDAM COMMITTEE ON AGING Minutes**

**Monday February 25,2019 10:00 am Town Annex Bldg. Jail Hill Haddam**

**Attachments:** Agenda, Social Services Monthly Report-February

**Members Present:** Jackie Crysler, Marge DeBold, Sue DiCarli, Mary Lou Heger, Fran Kosalski, Mary Lou Pierce, Susan Ruddy, Robert Waller, from CRAHD Sherry Carlson, from HKYFS Laurie Ruderfer, from public Joann Woickelman from High Meadows board, Melissa Schlag

**Call to Order:** By **Mary Lou Heger** followed by Pledge of Allegiance at 10:05am

Minutes of the December 2018 COA meeting were read, and a motion was made to accept as amended and agreed by all.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**Municipal Agent report** was received and shared with the group. She wanted to recognize the contributions for the food bank from churches, Garden Club, Middle School and River Valley provisions.

**Senior Van** We discussed changes in the van service following the retirement of Diane. It was reported that a temporary driver has been brought in to continue the shopping and medical trips. The Committee expressed some concern about the door to door service for those who use the Senior Center lunch program, and asked the secretary to draft a letter in inquiry for circulation and ultimately sent to Board of Selectmen. The committee suggested that 9 Town's Transit be offered when needed but this requires advance reservation for their door to door service.

**Club 60** Mary Lou Pierce reports that the group has updated their Bylaws to include the Scholarship program. Next year they will be increasing scholarship awards from \$500 to \$750. They have 80 members now. In March 2019 they will be hosting the Superintendent of Schools to discuss their budget and other school related items.

Sherry Carlson spoke about the once monthly Blood Pressure screening for those interested.

**SENIOR PICNIC** Date set for June 17, 2019. Bob and Thurston will help with the parking. Planning remains on track. The picnic will be held at the Haddam Neck Fairgrounds like last year. Sharon Laramore will do the catering, and Jon Conte will provide the music. As before a \$5 reservation fee will be requested, and this will be returned on the day of the event. We will be asking through the First Selectman, that he School District provide a bus to shuttle Haddam

residents to Haddam Neck, and back. Next month the Picnic Committee will meet before the COA meeting at 9:30am.

**CRAHD** Sherry advises that the Blood Pressure testing will be done the first Monday of every month at Club 60. In our own community there have been 51 cases of flu reported this season. She continues to follow up with GSK to find a reasonable source for Shingles vaccination. They received a grant for public education to address the Opioid problem in our region. She is working on programs using home visits to address Asthma. Some programs on the horizon include certification to train in “Matter of Balance” for seniors, and “Stop the Bleed”.

**HKYFS** information was presented by their Director Laurie. This past Friday they had a visit from Congressman Joe Courtney, during which they discussed federal programs targeted at their clients. She met with representatives from Senator Chris Murphy’s office as well. Some issues of great import for HKYFS include newly developed Juvenile Review board to help teens when they commit minor legal infractions gain some assistance from the community to access alternatives to the criminal justice system. Some other issues of great concern to our community, receiving help through HKYFS include responding the “Vaping” phenomenon by teens. This is a big problem now starting in Middle School.

**High Meadows** Jo ann advises the complex has filled 3 of the 4 spots open now. The COA brochure is displayed in the community room. She suggested that the brochure be included in the town’s tax bill next year.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Senior Handbook**, last updated 2015 was discussed. Melissa Schlag was very helpful in editing and distrusting this last go round. She offered to help with the new version. It was suggested that the new version could include some technology assists for seniors not found in the last one. It was recommended that the Secretary resend this out as an attachment for the members to review and make comments next meeting.

**Motion to adjourn.** Made by Marge, and seconded by Mary Lou Pierce at 11:15am, agreed by all.

**MEETING MONDAY March 18, 2019 at the Jail Hill Annex**

Respectfully submitted by, Robert D Waller, Secretary