

**Town of New Hartford  
Commission on Aging Special Meeting Minutes  
Town Hall 530 Main Street  
Wednesday June 19, 2019 @ 6:30pm**

**Members Present:** Laura Garay, Karen Kuhl, Karen Gauthier, Christine Ringuette, Kathy White

**Absent:** Donna Howard and Penny Muller

Chairwoman Garay called the meeting to order at 6:52pm.

**I. Public Comment**

No members of the public were present.

**II. Approval of March 6, 2019 meeting Minutes**

Motion made to approve the March 6, 2019 Meeting Minutes as presented by Karen Kuhl and seconded by Christine Ringuette. Motion approved.

**III. Approval of April 3, 2019 Meeting Minutes**

Motion made to approve the April 3, 2019 Meeting Minutes as presented by Kathy White and seconded by Karen Gauthier. Motion approved.

**IV. Senior Center Programming Update/Diane Barrett**

The Senior Center Director discussed new scheduled activities such as painting on a canvass, self defense classes, Tai Chi, and a joint initiative with Session Woods about Coyotes.

Director Barrett has been collaborating with the Teen Coordinator at the Beekley Library to bring the two groups together. She is also coordinating with other senior center directors in the northwest corner about alternating food menus. And she has been proactive about strategies to fill exercise classes for the summer.

**V. COA Housing Survey Draft Review/Take Possible Action**

A compilation of questions for the Housing Needs Survey was presented to the members for review. Chairwoman Garay will meet with Leslie Higgins-Biddle during the summer and present back to the Commission for final review.

#### **VI. Senior Resource Guide Work Group Update**

Members discussed the completion of the Senior Resource Guide. Chairwoman Garay advised the COA that she requested assistance from the First Selectman's Office to complete during the summer. Director Barrett offered her assistance as well. Karen Gautier to follow up with Director Barrett.

#### **VII. Northwest Chamber of Commerce Hall of Fame Inductee, Karen Kuhl**

The Commission acknowledged the accomplishment of our member. Chairwoman Garay spoke about the special luncheon she attended along with our First Selectman in honor of Karen Kuhl. The COA presented her with a framed photo taken at the luncheon.

#### **VIII. Other Business**

Suggestions for programming and agency collaboration were made to Director Barrett who had been working on these matters already. There was a discussion about dedicating the Senior Van at the Senior Picnic in July. Members recommended scheduling a "Meet and Greet" with Mel, the van driver.

Chairwoman Garay asked for members to consider volunteering for the position of Secretary that will be made effective at the September 2019 meeting. Filling the two Alternate vacancies was discussed. There is some interest in volunteering to fill that position.

Motion to Adjourn made by Karen Gauthier and seconded by Karen Kuhl. Motion approved. Meeting adjourned at 8:07pm

Next Meeting date is September 4, 2019 at 6:30pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Laura Garay, Chair