

Commission for Senior Services
Minutes of February 17, 2017

Meeting called to order by Chairman, Bob Fatherley

Present: CSS Members: Bob Fatherley, Chair; Jo Fuchs-Luscombe, Les Wolf, and Janet Filling

Excused: Peter Kolbrener, Leslie Wolf, and Judy Guthman

Staff: Susan Stefenson, Kristen Witt, and Sue Pfister

Minutes: Minutes of December and January were approved.

DHS Department Reports:

- Energy assistance program is running smoothly. A reminder of the AARP Tax Preparation. Tax Assessor's office working on an every other year program, combining local and State tax relief?. Home visits available to the frail elderly.

Committee Reports:

- Bob reported he attended the Commission on Disabilities meeting and met with Jim Ross the Chair.
- The next CSS meeting has been rescheduled for Friday, March 24th. Jim Ross will be the guest speaker.

Guest Speaker: Bob Fatherley welcomed Mark Hartog, Deputy Director of Westport EMS, a division of the Westport Police Department. Mark reports to Deputy Police Director. Mark has been involved with EMS for many years. He began while still in college at Columbia University. Westport EMS is primarily all volunteers. EMTs and Paramedics. Paramedics are top-level providers. EMTs have to take refresher courses and be certified. The Dept. handles all emergency calls. Timing of calls is critical. The State sets what gets charged for ambulance use. There is a 1.5 million dollar budget. Seniors living at home, especially if alone, entry to home is essential. Senior access to information is important. It is critical that seniors carry a list of all medications they take. File of Life card should be carried which lists doctors and medications.

Other Reports:

- Sue Pfister reported that the CSA Enhancement Committee submitted the 8-24 letter this week. There is a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting on March 2nd. Two variances needed from the ZBA. Sue advises that open a CSA Open Forum will take place in conjunction with the CSA enhancement update.
- The Probate Judge, Lisa Wexler will be the speaker in April. Robert Yost, the new Westport Fire Chief will be the speaker in May.
- Jo Fuchs-Luscombe will report in March on the CSS Annual Award.

Next meeting: Friday, March 24, 2017. Meeting adjourned at 11AM.

Respectfully submitted, Jo Fuchs-Luscombe, CSS Member