

**TOWN OF ENFIELD COMMISSION ON AGING
MINUTES FOR WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER `12, 2025 – 2:00 P.M.
ENFIELD SENIOR CENTER, 299 ELM STREET**

Attendance

Present: Mike Arnone Jr., Pauline Devino, Alice Egan, Howard Florian, Dave Goyette, Cynthia Guerreri, Staff Liaison, Mary Ann Harris, Marlene Hoginski, Priscilla (Pat Linehan), and Tim Slade.

Absent (Excused): Bob Cressotti, Council Liaison, Mary Keller, Enfield Senior Center Manager, Marie Pyznar, Council Liaison, Will St. George and Kay Tallarita.

I. Welcome

Chairman Alice Egan opened the meeting at 2:10 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

II. Secretary's Report

Alice Egan asked if everyone reviewed the minutes. With no corrections or additions needed, Dave Goyette made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Marlene Hoginski seconded. The motion was approved through a show of hands, except by Alice Egan, who abstained due to her absence at the last meeting.

III. Treasurer's Report:

Tim Slade presented the financial report for October and noted that the only expense was for Verizon. With no financial updates needed, Marlene Hoginski made a motion to accept the Financial Report as presented and Howard Florian seconded the motion which was approved by everyone through a show of hands.

IV. Senior Center Focus

Mary Keller was absent; however, she submitted copies of her report to Alice Egan for distribution. Mary's report indicated that today there was a Red, White and Blue Veterans Coffee Social; on November 13th there will be a Veteran's Appreciation Social, on November 14th a Vietnam Presentation, a Pie Social on 11/20/25, an AARP presentation on What I need to know about my electric Choices on 11/16/25, a Holiday Craft Fair and Raffle on November 22nd with the Lions Club Pancake Breakfast. In addition, AARP Tax Aide information will be available in the December Newsletter and in January 2026 the Senior Center's registration system will be changing from My Senior Center to MyRec which will allow for on-line registration, credit card and debit card use by patrons and point of sale at the window.

V. Social Services Update

Justin Lopez reported that a CRT Worker for Energy Assistance help has been approved. He noted to those who are applying for energy assistance, they will only receive 1/3 of their payment until the government is reopened. SNAP has been reloaded, however, the Meals on Wheels program is receiving reduced funding.

VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Senior Living TV Program

Tim Slade reported that for the November taping, first guest, Sheila Vasseur, Co-President of the Mt Carmel Women's Auxiliary spoke about community donations and how Mt Carmel supports community outreach activities. According to Tim, Will St. George the second guest made a great presentation on Senior Medicare Patrol activities. For the December 3rd taping, guests will be Kathleen Savigny of the Food Shelf and Marlene Hoginski of the Friends of the Enfield Senior Center.

B. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Kay Tallarita was absent so there was no report this month.

C. Triad

Dave Goyette reported that the group did not meet in October, however, the next meeting is scheduled on December 2nd.

VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS (continued)

D. Choices/Senior Medicare Patrol

Will St. Goerge was absent so there was no report this month, however, Dave Goyette commented that United Healthcare has announced that it will no longer provide U-Cards in 2026.

E. Symposium

Pat Linehan was late so there was no report.

F. Nursing Home Project

Alice Egan indicated that she has not yet received the list of recipients for this year's Nursing Home Project although she has begun to collect items for the project. She indicated that she hopes to be able to use the Town Credit Card again this year to purchase Walmart gift cards and Dollar Tree items. Tim reminded Alice to check to see if she is able to use the card this year since some rules regarding use of the Town credit card have changed since last year. He also asked Alice if the expenses should be split to 60/40 as last year so that purchase orders may be prepared.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Friends of the Enfield Senior Center

Marlene Hoginski reported that on December 18th a holiday meal for 50 people will be prepared for CRT luncheon recipients (with some additional Center members) and asked the Commissioners for help in serving the Holiday Lunch beginning at 11:30 a.m. The menu from Angelina's will be the same as last year and will cost \$949.00 with no dessert included. In addition, each recipient will receive a holiday goody bag. Marlene also reported that a bequest was received from the family of a deceased former Center member who recently passed away. She also noted that Girl Scouts will be delivering cookies to local veterans this weekend and that the Wreaths Across America campaign is underway to place wreaths on the graves of nearly 1,600 local veterans in December.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. COA Initiatives

Telephone Magnets - Dave Goyette asked if we are interested in reprinting the 2023 Telephone Magnets with new telephone information. All agreed that this is necessary and that we should also add a few new numbers such as for Poison Control. It was agreed to review what is needed at the December meeting and plan to place an order.

Other Initiative – There was a lengthy discussion about what other initiatives the COA could pursue in 2026. Recommendations were made that a strategic plan be developed to identify and research the needs of seniors, collect data regarding these needs, and prepare a plan to educate Town officials about the findings. Cindy Guerrerri mentioned that NCAAA is one resource that can be reached for information gathering. There will be more discussion in upcoming meetings.

B. Town Council Reports

Due to the absence of Council Liaisons, there was no report this month.

IX. Announcements

Dave Goyette indicated that the closing on the Felician Sisters Saint Felix Building construction will begin this Friday on this 2-year project. He also mentioned that the terms of Commissioners Alice Egan, Howard Florian and Will St. George are expiring and can be renewed on the Town Website.

X. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Mary Ann Harris made a motion to adjourn and Marlene Hoginski seconded. It passed unanimously and Alice Egan adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 10, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. in the DSS Alcorn School Large Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted by Pauline Devino, Secretary

Gina Cekala, Mayor

Matthew Coppler, Town Manager

Bob Cressotti, Council Liaison

Cindy Guerrerri, Staff Liaison & Director of Social Services

Mary Keller, Enfield Senior Center Manager

Marie Pyznar, Council Liaison