

**TOWN OF ENFIELD COMMISSION ON AGING
MINUTES FOR WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026 – 2:00 P.M.
DSS, ALCORN SCHOOL, 1010 ENFIELD STREET**

Attendance

Present: Pauline Devino, Dave Goyette, Cynthia Guerreri, Staff Liaison, Marlene Hoginski, Priscilla (Pat) Linehan, Tim Slade, Kay Tallarita and Lori Unguire, Council Liaison.

Absent (Excused): Mike Arnone Jr., Bob Cressotti, Council Liaison, Alice Egan, Mary Ann Harris, Mary Keller, Enfield Senior Center Manager, Justin Lopez, Elderly Care Services Coordinator and Will St. George.

I. Welcome

In Chairman Alice Egan's absence, Vice Chairman Marlene opened the meeting at 2:05 p.m.

II. Secretary's Report

Marlene Hoginski asked if everyone reviewed the minutes.

III. Treasurer's Report:

Tim Slade presented the financial report for January 2026 and reviewed the expenses. **Two expenses were reported, Verizon (Choices) and Grandparents Raising Grandchildren.**

IV. Senior Center Focus

In Mary Keller's absence, Marlene Hoginski provided the following report: the Senior Center hosted a New Year's celebration with music and refreshments provided by the Friends of the Senior Center on January 8th with 100 seniors in attendance, Tax Aid appointment registrations began on January 15th with staff scheduling close to 100 appointments in that one day. In addition, the Center partnered with AARP to provide a Fraud Watch Network Presentation on how to proactively spot scams. Brett from Friendship Tours held a presentation of all the trips we have scheduled for 2026. Currently we have 8-day trips 2 overnight trips, a cruise and a few fly tours. Also, the Department of Revenue Services held a presentation on key topics to help make filing your CT 1040 income tax return easier.

In February, AARP Taxes began on Monday, February 2nd. A Valentine's Day social is scheduled for February 12th with 110 participants expected. A dance with Richie Mitnick is scheduled for Friday February 20th. We are hosting two presentations on the Military Tribute Banners program on February 11th at 6:00 p.m. and Thursday, February 12th at 9:30 a.m. Currently there are 89 banners sold that will be displayed on the Town Green, at Higgins Park at the Freshwater Walkway and in Hazardville from Memorial Day until Veteran's Day when they will be stored by the Town. In addition, we have an intern from ACC starting on Thursday, February 12th and we have been a warming center for the past few weeks.

V. Social Services Update

Cindy Guerreri reported that she continues to work on preparations for Grants like the transportation grant. Pat Linhan asked Cindy if there has been a change in how the minutes are being distributed electronically since she is having a problem opening the reports. Others also mentioned that they had experienced some problems as well and were grateful to Catherine for

printing a hard copy for them. Cindy said that she will investigate if any changes have been made to how the COA documents are being distributed electronically.

VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Senior Living TV Program

Pat Linehan reported that **the most recent taping was performed Feb. 5 and included Peter Sorenson, President of the Enfield Historical Society. Peter made 2 30 minute presentations.**

B. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren

Kay Tallarita reported that the program continues to grow with a few new applicants and although there are referrals some grandparents do not attend. When considering why some do not attend Kay discussed that the new members may feel a stigma attached to attending, but after their first meeting they feel more comfortable. She also mentioned that the meetings are being moved to Alcorn which allows for the children to participate in gym activities while their grandparents attend the meetings. When asked how many attend the meetings, Kay responded that about 24 to 26 attend including children.

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C. Triad

Dave Goyette reported that the group met on the first Tuesday in February and is planning four things for the upcoming months including an AARP safe driver event, a safety and self-awareness program, police drone, robotics and dog demonstrations and an event with Don Ellis of the Fire Service.

D. Choices/Senior Medicare Patrol

Will St. Goerge was absent so there was no report.

E. Symposium

Pat Linehan reported that she has given more thought to the invitation from the Chamber of Commerce to consider joining their organization and networking with others in support of the COA charter

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G. AARP Tax Aide/VITA Project

Marianne Harris was not in attendance so there was no report.

VII. OLD BUSINESS

A. Friends of the Enfield Senior Center

Marlene Hoginski that much of what she can report is covered in the report from Mary Keller regarding the Senior Center activities.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. COA Initiatives

Telephone Magnets - Dave Goyette provided quotes for the reprinting of telephone magnets. Vernon Promotions is asking \$1,450 for 2,500 and Minute Man Printing \$1,250 for 2,500 including shipping. After some discussion, it was agreed to purchase 2,000 magnets, green in color from Minute Man Printing. Tim Slade will handle the purchase order and Dave will verify Social Service numbers with Cindy Guerreri. Tim made a motion to purchase 2,000 magnets at a cost of \$1,798.00 from Minute Man Printing and Marlene Hoginski seconded the purchase.

Town Council Reports

Lori Unghire reported that work continues on the new budget. Dave Goyette asked her if she could find out some information regarding the Senior Volunteer committee. He asked if the same committee will continue with old members, or will new members be asked. Lori said she would investigate and report back to COA.

IX. Announcements -

X. Adjournment

With no further business to discuss, Tim Slade made a motion to adjourn and Lori Unghire seconded. It passed unanimously and Marlene Hoginski adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, March 11, 2026 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 Guerreri, Staff Liaison & Director of Social Services
Mary Keller, Enfield Senior Center Manager
Lori Unghire, Council Liaison