

**TOWN OF ENFIELD COMMISSION ON AGING  
MINUTES FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2025 – 2:00 P.M.  
ENFIELD SENIOR CENTER, 299 ELM STREET**

**Attendance**

**Present:** Mike Arnone Jr., Pauline Devino, Alice Egan, Dave Goyette, Marlene Hoginski, Mary Keller, Enfield Senior Center Manager, Priscilla (Pat) Linehan, Tim Slade and Kay Tallarita.

**Absent (Excused):** Bob Cressotti, Council Liaison, Howard Florian, Cynthia Guerreri, Staff Liaison, Mary Ann Harris, Marie Pyznar, Council Liaison and Will St. George.

**I. Welcome**

Chairman Alice Egan opened the meeting at 2:05 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

**II. Secretary's Report**

Alice Egan asked if everyone reviewed the minutes. With no corrections or additions needed, Marlene Hoginski made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Tim Slade seconded. The motion was approved through a show of hands.

**III. Treasurer's Report:**

Tim Slade presented the financial report for August and noted that the only expense for the month was for Verizon Wireless for the monthly rental of the Choices phone. Tim commented that he was glad to hear that the Enfield Women's Club had finally received a check for \$5,178.10 for the Grandparents Raising Grandchildren program which was from the remainder of the Donations account. With the Donations account finally depleted the September financial report will reflect this update. With no further financial matters to discuss, Dave Goyette made a motion to accept the report as presented and Marlene Hoginski seconded the motion. The motion was accepted through a show of hands.

**IV. Senior Center Focus**

Mary Keller reported that we are now fully staffed with the hire of a new desk clerk. September is Senior Center month with many activities planned including the outside Triad Safety Day on September 12<sup>th</sup> featuring fire, EMS, Alex's Army, the new police dog robot and representatives from the Commission on Aging and M&T Bank. An Ice Cream Social was held on September 4<sup>th</sup> with about 70 people in attendance sponsored by the Evergreen Center for Health and Rehabilitation which has committed to fund the ice cream socials for the entire year. The October newsletter is being prepared and should be available by week end. The next Craft Fair will be held on November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 8 am to 12 noon with anticipated participation (waiting for confirmation) by the Lion's Club with a pancake breakfast. During the Craft Fair there will be a Quilt Raffle, Dicken's Village Raffle and Tea Cup Raffle in addition to the sale of items made at the Center. Tim Slade asked Mary Keller if she knows about the open position at the State Level. Mary explained that this legislative position offers an opportunity for the State Senior Centers to use one voice to the State instead of individual Senior Centers attempting to get information or applying to the State for action. Tim also asked if there is any new information about adding to the 3-day CRT meals. Mary indicated that the new budget year starts on October 1<sup>st</sup> so there will be no new announcements until after this date. The good thing is that week end meals and daily hot and cold meals continue at the Mark Twain facility and to the Meals on Wheels program. Mary explained even with the generous \$5,000 donation to the Friends of the Senior Center increasing meal service is not an easy solution since there are many nutritional and medical concerns. Marlene Hoginski said that she hoped that part of the donation can be used to offer special holiday meals such as at Thanksgiving and Christmas along with monthly events if funds are available. When asked, Mary responded that there has been no new information about Federal funding for the CRT Program. Mary also wanted to credit Taylor Marino, the Senior Center Program Coordinator with a great job in creating community partners who support Center activities.

**V. Social Services Update**

Cindy Guerrieri was absent so there was no report.

## **VI. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **A. Senior Living TV Program**

Pat Linehan reported that taping for September has been cancelled due to the lack of guests to interview, however, taping will resume on October 1<sup>st</sup> as soon as Pat is able to confirm with the intended guests. She thanked Kay Tallarita for her suggestion of guest interviewees for November and December.

### **B. Grandparents Raising Grandchildren**

Kay Tallarita again thanked the Commission for its donation of over \$5,000 toward the Grandparents program and noted that the money may be used for winter programs. She also mentioned that her grandson recently conducted a biking/hiking fundraiser for the program in Arizona. Kay announced that there has been a change to the program with the closing of the Monday session due to poor attendance, however, the Wednesday program will continue with Kay, Amy Morales and an additional Social Worker providing support. Pat Linehan commented that her bridge club recently donated \$800 to the program and that she is working with the 100 Women Group to consider donating to the program for this year.

### **C. Triad**

Dave Goyette reminded the members about the Triad Public Safety Event on September 12<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 2:00 p.m. with demonstrations from EMS, Fire, Police, and the new police dog robot. He also mentioned that the next meeting of the Triad Committee will be on the first Tuesday in October.

### **D. Choices/Senior Medicare Patrol**

Will St. Goerge was absent so there was no report this month, however, Mike Arnone commented that about 25 people attended the presentation on Medicare and Banking Fraud as presented by the Senior Medicare Patrol and Banking representatives, that was very well done.

### **E. Symposium**

Pat Linehan mentioned that she and the Symposium committee have decided to postpone plans for a Fall Symposium and reschedule to the Spring so there is more time to plan. She said that she is continuing to research the conducting of a Town Hall type symposium consisting of "Wisdom People" who could share the benefits of people who have the years of experiences and knowledge some of which were recently mentioned in AARP publications (which have commented on the benefits of wisdom and knowledge of the elderly).

## **VII. OLD BUSINESS**

### **A. Friends of the Enfield Senior Center**

Marlene Hoginski reported that the committee will be meeting tomorrow for the first time since June. She noted that Art Cody is stepping down so a new Treasurer will be needed. In discussing fund raising initiatives, Marlene mentioned that annual fund raising is down this year, but the Center staff continues to thank contributors and encourage donations.

## **VIII. NEW BUSINESS**

### **A. COA Initiatives**

Mike Arnone, Jr. reported that distribution of new pens and letter openers in packets with new Blue Books and Files of Life will occur during the upcoming Triad Safety Day. Dave Goyette reminded that as a new year initiative we need to look at updating our phone magnets since a number of phone numbers have changed.

### **B. Town Council Reports**

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

## **IX. Announcements**

Discussion of new initiatives will continue at the next meeting due to the absence of several members at this meeting.

## **X. Adjournment**

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

**Next Meeting** Wednesday, October 8, 2025 at 2:00 p.m. at the DSS Alcorn School Large Conference Room.

Respectfully Submitted by Pauline Devino, Secretary

Ken Nelson, Mayor

Matthew Coppler, Town Manager

Bob Cressotti, Council Liaison

Cindy Guerreri, Staff Liaison & Director of Social Services

Mary Keller, Enfield Senior Center Manager

Marie Pyznar, Council Liaison