

City of West Haven, CT
West Haven Seniors Commission
Minutes of the meeting held Tuesday, 11-March-2025

An Organizational meeting of the West Haven Seniors Commission was called to order at 6:05 p.m. by Chairman Johnson at West Haven City Hall, 355 Main St. All those present rose and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Attendance

John M. Carrano, <i>Commissioner, Human Resources</i>	Present
Alyssa Maddern, <i>Director Senior Services</i>	Present
Teddi McKenna, <i>Commissioner</i>	Present
Leonora Rodriguez, <i>Commissioner</i>	Present
Dominic Broccoli, <i>Commissioner</i>	Absent
Debra Johnson, <i>Commissioner</i>	Present

1. Minutes of 28-January-2025

- Commissioner McKenna MOVED to accept the minutes of 28-January-2025; SECONDED by Commissioner Rodriguez. Motion carried unanimously.

2. Public Input

- The Chairman opened the floor for Public Input and there were no speakers. Public portion was then closed

3. Communications

- Brief discussion on the newsletter.
- Discussion on AED/NARCAN locations included a suggestion from Commissioner Rodriguez to utilize the City's Emergency Alert System to let citizens know they can go on the website to review the list of locations where the newly installed AED/Narcan kits have been installed.
- Further discussion on the need for training to be offered to citizens so they know how to deploy the system.

4. Report of the Director

- Discussion items resulting from the Report of the Director:
 - Commissioner Rodriguez discussed the feasibility of building a buffer into the activities surrounding "Donna's Destinations" so the Center can receive a slight profit from the ticket sales that can then be used for future trips or the Center itself.
 - Commission, as a whole, would like to see if we have any statistics on the percentage of Sr. Center Members versus Non-Members and West Haven Residents versus Non-West Haven Residents that are utilizing Donna's Destinations. Director emphasized that Donna's Destinations has been opened for all and continues to be so well received by the participants.
 - Commissioner McKenna discussed having Member and Non-Member pricing for both Donna's Destinations and the "Veterinary Care Everywhere" that is provided for \$60/pet. Director expressed that an increase to prices, especially with the WHSC population, can lead to negativity and will need to have explanation.
 - Commissioner Rodriguez discussed the low price to become a Member of the Center. Currently charge \$15 for Membership vs. \$25 at surrounding towns. Also, the move to Molloy should come with an increase in annual fee. Once closer to the move, we may look to offer a multi-year discount rate versus the normal rate offered at that time.

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- Commissioner McKenna mentioned that the previous Adult Day Care had a small gift shop, no clothing, which may be a nice addition to Molloy. Director mentioned how a gift shop may have good intentions, however there may be more donations than sales, which would then create clutter.
- Commissioner Rodriguez mentioned that Milford has a thrift shop, with clothing, and the complexity multiplies once clothing is involved and volunteers help run the shop. Commissioner Rodriguez added that donations are taken only at certain times of the year and if not taken by thrift shop, then donated to Savers.
- Commissioner Rodriguez mentioned that it would be helpful to see not just the activities for the current month, but also any activities that are planned, at the time of the meeting, for the following month so the Commissioners can better schedule visiting certain events onto their calendars.
- Human Resources Commissioner and Director mentioned that they visited Milford Senior Center and there were several ideas and strategies that could be pulled from Milford to West Haven (i.e. thrift shop, pool tables, transportation, pickle ball, etc.)

5. Report of the Commissioner:

- Discussion surrounding the current state of the transportation expenses and options. Commissioner Rodriguez asked if we could have a discussion with UNH and Yale to see if they have any Vans or Shuttles, with useful life remaining, that we may be able to be gifted so we can use them, along with our own driver, to help offset the transportation cost
- Commissioner McKenna said it would be great if we could build a bocce/horseshoes court into the vision for Molloy School
- Commissioner Rodriguez mentioned a small amphitheater for outdoor music or movies would be a great addition, depending on the funding we are able to receive.

6. Old Business

- None

7. New Business

- None

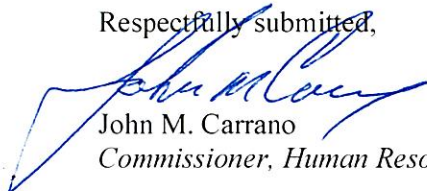
8. Commissioner Reports

- Commissioner Johnson mentioned that she attended the Love & Marriage Luncheon at the Church on the Green on February 14th and it was a wonderfully attended event.

9. Adjournment

At 7:31 p.m., Commissioner McKenna MOVED to adjourn; SECONDED by Commissioner Rodriguez. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,



John M. Carrano
Commissioner, Human Resources and Acting Recording Clerk