

# *Branford Commission of Services for the Elderly*

Laurie Rockwell – Chair  
Jean Richo  
Patricia B. Torre

Patricia Brownell-Co-Chair  
Luba Mebert Schmid  
Mary Hahn

Dana Murphy  
Ellen Carucci  
Alpha Coiro

## **Meeting Minutes November 14, 2024**

Call to Order - The Meeting was called to order at 5:01 pm by Chair Laurie Rockwell. Also present: Ellen Carucci, Pat Torre, Pat Brownell, Jean Richo and Alpha Coiro. Assistant Director Nancy Cohen, Alex Palluzzi, Human Resource Director Margaret Luberdia and First Selectman James Cosgrove were also in attendance.

- I. Approval of the Minutes of the September 12, 2024 Meeting – A correction on the minutes – Jean Richo was also in attendance at the meeting and her name was inadvertently omitted. On a motion by Pat Torre and seconded by Ellen Carucci, the amended minutes were unanimously approved.
- II. Nancy Cohen presented the Assistant Director’s Report. Nell Reinwald is now the Activity Coordinator and has been doing a great job, including revamping the newsletter. Cherie’s is donating day old pastries for free and they are a big hit! A huge Thank You to Pat Torre for all her assistance with the Rental Rebate Program paperwork. As far as the Energy Assistance program, we are currently working on deliverables. Discussion on renaming the Fitness Room has been tabled by the Recreation Board until the next meeting, which is on December 9 at 7:00 pm. There are a variety of wonderful events coming up.
- III. The First Selectman addressed the Commission regarding a variety of topics, including The filling of the Director’s position, the Programming and Services that are provided by Canoe Brook and the actions being taken to insure stability to continue providing the services our residents deserve as we all work together during this period of transition. He is continuing to work with both Canoe Brook and the Recreation Department staff to expand the offerings. The food programs are of particular focus. The Commissioners again questioned the First Selectman about the timeline to fill empty positions, especially the Director’s slot. The First Selectman had been visiting residents at Parkside II and expressed his continued concern regarding the isolation of residents and feels some more outreach to get information on available programs and services would be terrific. Mention was made of the need to fill vacancies on the Commission.
- IV. Citizen’s Comments – None.
- V. On a motion from Pat Brownell, Seconded by Alpha Coiro, by unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by Doreen F. Denhardt, Commission Clerk.