

# *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 February 6, 2025**

Call to Order - The Meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm by Chair Laurie Rockwell. Also present: Ellen Carucci, Pat Torre and Pat Brownell and Jean Richo. Alpha Coiro joined the meeting later. Assistant Director Nancy Cohen, newly appointed Director of Leisure Activities Dale Izzo and First Selectman James Cosgrove were also in attendance.

- I. Approval of the Minutes of the November 14, 2024 Meeting – On a motion by Pat Brownell and Seconded by Ellen Carucci, the minutes were unanimously approved.
- II. Jaime Cosgrove spoke about meeting with the staff and leveraging resources to expand and improve the programming we provide. To date, changes have been well received. Staff positions and the budget process were discussed, along with community outreach needs. Laurie Rockwell spoke about any anticipated changes regarding the Elderly Services Commission board and the need for additional commissioners. Nancy Addressed the fees currently in place and extensive discussion ensued regarding whether or not to change the current fee structure. That has been tabled until further research can be conducted and the staffing levels are solidified. Focus is going to be placed on meeting programming demands of the community being served. Nancy spoke of the parking concerns due to the proximity of Sliney School. Dale Izzo assured the members that these issues are being actively addressed.
- III. Nancy updated the commission about the Energy Assistance Program and the assistance Pat Torre has provided to Canoe Brook. Renters Rebate Applications will not be worked on until early summertime. Lunch and a Movie has returned and there is a dinner planned in May celebrating Older Americans Month. The Transportation Program is ever expanding and we now have 13 Volunteer Drivers. Programming statistics show an increasing volume of participation and membership is up significantly.
- IV. Lorri Rockwell informed the members of their attendance at the Recreation Board Meeting to have a room named for the former Director of Canoe Brook, Dagmar Ridgway. It has been decided that a bench will be placed in an appropriate area at the Community House in her honor.
- V. On a motion from Pat Torre, seconded by Ellen Carucci, by unanimous consent the meeting was adjourned at 6:22 pm. The next meeting is scheduled for May 9, 2025.

Respectfully Submitted by Doreen F. Denhardt, Commission Clerk.