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Minutes of the Commission on Aging Monthly Meeting
November 4, 2026

Attendees: Vice-Chair Robert Berman, Halesteen Graham Days, Shirley Thompson, Peter Wilcox

Absent: Marie MacDonald, Vice-Chair Patricia Miller, E. Leon Rivers, Jeanette Rivers, Kay Sherman

Guests: Luz Cora-Small (Senior Services Liaison), Lori Myers (Senior Services)

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 pm.

Old Business

- Turkey Distribution – This year the Senior Services Department will be distributing turkeys to 100 Bloomfield families who are 55 years of age or older. There is also a recommendation that the families who are on the waitlist should check with Social and Youth Services Department or the Blue Hills Fire Department, who are distributing turkeys as well to see if they are able to accommodate their needs.
- The Pre-Thanksgiving Luncheon will take place at 330 Park Avenue in partnership with Touchpoints on Thursday, November 19. Seventy-five residents will be attending, and the event is already full.
- Senior Holiday Luncheon with the Blue Hills Fire Department is occurring on Monday, December 21 - all 100 slots have been filled at this time with residents who are 55+.

New Business

- Bright Nights in Springfield, MA trip on December 3. Sign-ups will begin on Thursday November 5.
- Holiday Variety Show with Jimmy Mazz - sign-ups have already begun and trip is almost full
- Traveler's Chorale Concert at The Bushnell - December 17. Attendees are asked to bring a non-perishable food item on the night of the concert to donate.
- Upcoming New Classes
    - Monitor My Health - No Cost class which will include 1 hour of instruction and 30 minutes of exercise for 26 weeks starting January 11, 2027
    - Tai Ji Quan - Senior Center received a grant from CT Community Care to cover the cost of the instructor. This program will be held for 26 weeks and includes 2 classes per week for a duration of 1 hour.
- Meeting Schedule for 2027- The Commission has suggested moving the meeting time to 10am starting in January 2027. Due to a quorum not being met this was not able to be

voted on but will be at the December meeting. The meeting dates for 2027 will be as follows: Jan 6, Feb 3, March 3, April 7, May 5, June 2, Sept. 1, Oct. 6, Nov. 3, Dec. 1.

Public Comments

Bob Berman has reached out the Connecticut Commission on Aging but has not heard back yet. Mr. Berman will continue to reach out to see if someone from their office can come to a Bloomfield COA meeting in January or on a later meeting date.

Peter Wilcox shared that there is an organization called COACT which is the Commission on Aging CT. This group empowers local COA's, collaborates with their 120 members and also work with Aging CT. Peter will reach out to the COACT group to see if they are able to attend a COA meeting and present information to see if the Bloomfield COA would like to become members of COACT.

One member stated her frustration with being appointed a spot on COA and did not understand why she had to complete an interview. Another member explained what the process was like for her this year when her interview was conducted.

Shirley Thompson requested that State Representative Bobby Gibson attend a COA meeting next year.

The minutes for the October 2026 meetings could not be approved due to quorum not met.

Peter Wilcox made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Shirley Thompson. The meeting was adjourned at 12:46 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 12:00 p.m. on December 2, 2026, at 330 Park Avenue.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Myers