
Town of Montville

COMMISSION ON AGING
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
Informational Meeting | Non Quorum
April 2, 2025 | 9:00 a.m.
Montville Senior Center – Library

MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Perkins at 9:08 a.m., followed by The Pledge of Allegiance

2. ROLL CALL

Present: Commissioners Perkins, Adams, and Suarez

Absent with prior notification: Commissioners: Doherty-Peck, Ziegler, O'Brien, and Taylor; Liaisons: Councilman Caron and Lt. Radford

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion/Vote to Approve March 2025 minutes: Non quorum

Action: Tabled for May 2025

4. APPROVAL OF BILLS

Motion/Vote to Approve any March 2025 bills: Non quorum

Action: Tabled for May 2025

5. CORRESPONDENCE – None

6. REMARKS FROM PUBLIC

Sen. Cathy Osten addressed three items from the Commission's March 2025 minutes – the impediment of poor road infrastructure on residents of Montville Manor, the adverse effect of unfunded mandates on municipal revenue, and the need for layman terms from which ordinary citizens can foresee any negative impact a particular bill may have on their finances or existing services – and she addressed the critical need for renovation at the two elderly housing sites that comprise Montville Housing Authority.

Road infrastructure: Major construction and funding issues must be addressed in order to achieve the goal of ridding the Manor of its bumpy roads. The positioning of the waterlines and gas lines are causing breaks in the waterlines, requiring a structural project involving excavation. The Southeastern CT Water Authority (SCWA) is prepared to remedy the waterline issue; however, the SCWA is funded by their rate payers, and in Southeastern Connecticut, the median household income is generally lower than the statewide average. A bill has been put forth to acquire money for SCWA to remedy the water issue; and despite these being challenging times for grant awards, a funding proposal has been made.

Unfunded mandates: Prior to being enacted, for every bill passed in the Legislature, the Office of Fiscal Analysis (OFA) requires fiscal notes analyzing the potential revenue impact on both State and municipal funds. There are times when bills affect municipal funds, such as in the case of veterans who are long-term, 100% permanently disabled due to injuries sustained during their service to the United States.

Layman terms for bills: It is imperative to read a bill in its entirety to get a full understanding of what it proposes. At the end, there is a separate report on the finances of that particular bill.

Montville Housing Authority: Funds have been committed for renovating the two housing complexes at MHA; one grant award for renovations and another for pipe replacement and faucets. Monthly meetings are ongoing, including Senator Osten, Mayor Bunnell, Director of Senior and Social Services Doherty-Peck, and the CT Department of Housing (DOH).

7. REPORTS

Report in Absentia: Chair Doherty-Peck reported that five grant proposals have been submitted to funding agencies for approval and that the award phase of acceptance or rejection should meet final review April 28. She has been advised that 2025 is a challenging year for securing grant funding. The senior center has added several new programs, including a live virtual tour of the annual cherry blossom festival in Japan.

8. STANDARD ORDER OF BUSINESS

None.

9. REMARKS FROM THE PUBLIC

None.

10. REMARKS FROM COMMISSIONERS

Commissioner Suarez remarked that municipal governments need increased authority from which to oversee the welfare and safety of their constituents living in public housing authorities.

11. ADJOURNMENT

Informational meeting adjourned at 9:48 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted by: Deb Suarez, Secretary for the Commission on Aging
Cc: Commission File