

**Minutes of the Ridgefield Commission on Aging (“CoA”) Meeting
January 22, 2024, 2:30 pm, Small Conference Room, Town Hall**

The meeting was called to order at 2:30 pm. Commissioners Beebe, Culhane, Martin, Ternullo, Tewes, and Yaffa were present. Commissioners Bancel and Saleeby were excused absences. Mr. Phillips, Social Services Director, and Ms. Gaudian, Municipal Agent for Elders, ex officio advisors were present.

As the **1st order of business**, Mr. Ternullo invited public comment. There was none.

As the **2nd order of business**, Ms. Beebe moved that the 12/18/23 CoA minutes be approved. Ms. Martin seconded. There being no discussion, a vote followed. The minutes were unanimously approved.

As the **3rd order of business**, Mr. Ternullo invited officer nominations. Ms. Beebe nominated Mr. Ternullo as chair and Ms. Yaffa as vice chair. Mr. Tewes seconded. There being no discussion, a vote followed. The nominations were unanimously approved.

As the **4th order of business**, Mr. Ternullo reviewed the CoA’s charge as stated in the Town Charter. When the discussion ended, Mr. Ternullo moved to the next agenda item.

As the **5th order of business**, Mr. Ternullo reviewed the 1/17 CoA/Select Board meeting regarding CoA 2024 goals and invited discussion regarding additional 2024 CoA goals. The goals stated below were unanimously approved:

<u>Goal</u>	<u>Lead</u>
Explore whether the CoA is the proper organization to identify senior citizen behavioral health needs and coordinate municipal programs re same	Ternullo
Grow the CoA’s email list and develop a recurring CoA <i>communication plan</i>	Yaffa
Activate a CoA <i>grants program</i>	Ternullo
Develop CoA <i>subcommittees</i> as needed	-
With Commissioner Tewes as editor- in-chief, explore expanding the Senior Directory to a <i>revenue generating publication</i>	Tewes
Adopt and grow the <i>Gold Card Program</i>	Martin
Launch an <i>awards program</i> celebrating excellence and commitment to serving seniors	Beebe/ Culhane
Explore the feasibility of the CoA authoring a <i>book</i> on high performing CoA’s	Ternullo

As the **6th order of business**, Mr. Ternullo reviewed the FOIA requirements and Code of Ethics. When the discussion ended, he moved to the next agenda item.

The **7th order of business**, relating to terms of service, was tabled until the CoA’s 2/26/23 meeting. In the interim, Ms. Beebe will seek clarification from the office of the First Select Person.

As the **8th order of business**, Mr. Ternullo, announced the dates of the next Senior Voices forum and the next CoA meeting. It was unanimously suggested that our state congress people receive standing invitations to attend and to speak at Senior Voices. Mr. Ternullo will extend invitations.

As the **9th order of business**, Mr. Ternullo invited a discussion of new business. Ms. Culhane urged the CoA to support the proper use of handicap parking spots. Especially given the cold winter weather and icy conditions, there was unanimous consent to the sentiments Ms. Culhane expressed.

There being no other business, Mr. Ternullo invited a motion to adjourn. Ms. Yaffa called for adjournment. Ms. Martin seconded. The motion to adjourn was unanimously approved at 4:00 pm.

The above is a true and accurate summary of the CoA 1/22/23 meeting.

Joseph Ternullo, Acting Secretary