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Subject: **Commission on Aging Minutes for December 4, 2014**
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Commission on Aging Brookfield, CT
Regular Monthly Meeting December 4, 2014
Betsy called the meeting to order at 12:05

Present: Bill, Marilyn, Sue, Eve, Emily, Stanley, Betsy, Reet, Ellen
The minutes of the previous meeting were accepted as presented

SENIOR CENTER/SOCIAL SERVICES

The annual Holiday Boutique with lots of activities, food, vendors and the like is scheduled for this weekend Saturday, 12/6. Peter Cronin has helped at least one hundred seniors evaluate the cost of their prescriptions for Medicare Part D. Some seniors have experienced substantial savings under his guidance. Beginning Computers, a new session, will start up in January at the Center. Jeanette has helped some eighty clients apply for the CT Energy Assistance Program as well as the Operation Fuel Program. Usage of the Food Pantry is up a bit. Sixty Brookfield families will benefit from the annual Gift Giving Program. Ellen is in the process of reviewing statistics and evaluating future needs for the Center for 2015.

BROOKS QUARRY

Stanley reports that a consultant is applying for a grant to help with the sewer project. Presently there is a need to expand the waiting list.

OLD BUSINESS

Marilyn will send holiday cards to our FISH drivers reminding them that no rides are given when Brookfield schools are closed or delayed because of winter weather. We recommend that drivers call their clients as soon as they have agreed to drive on a particular day. It is important for drivers to know what door they will pick up the client if they dropped them off to return later. In January we will make a concerted effort to recruit new drivers. Carol will be the driver, client coordinator for January.

RESOURCE GUIDE/COA

Sue will do a master copy and bring that to the Commissioners for our review. The next step will be to decide on a printer and whether the guide should have a hole punch. A certain number will be printed showing Brookfield horses on the cover. After that, the Guides will be printed as needed. The workshop, designed to help seniors return to the work force, is in the works and scheduled for April 25, 2015.

Marilyn will check the VNA program in Ridgefield to see if it would work for Brookfield residents. Reet strongly recommended that we write our Congressmen requesting that they redirect more funds to the states in order to improve meals served to seniors. After much discussion, it was decided that we focus our attention at the local level. Betsy distributed the dates for the COA meetings for the 1015-2016 calendar year. We will continue to meet on the first Wednesday at twelve noon in room 135. Carol will send these dates to Joan Locke. The Commissioners have been asked to look at the town's web site to see what changes need to be made to the duties and responsibilities of Brookfield's COA. These will be discussed at our January meeting.

ADJOURNMENT 1:00PM

Meeting notes submitted by Carol Howe