

Senior Tax Abatement Ad Hoc Committee
Town Hall
Brookfield, CT 06804

Minutes of Meeting of September 25, 2017
7:00 pm, Room 135, Town Hall

Present: First Selectman Steve Dunn and committee members Alice Carolan, Loretta Donovan, Jeff Kass, Maura Mangan, Betsy McIlvaine, Dan Walker. Absent: committee members Jen Barczak and Mark Ferry.

Mr. Dunn opened the meeting at 7:00pm, and charged the committee to review Brookfield's current program and area town programs to see if changes are needed. He especially wanted us to consider income limits and what happens in a given year if someone went over the limit by a small amount. He set no time limit for the committee's work, but hoped we might have a report within six months. He gave each member a packet of materials: agenda, charge from the Board of Selectmen, email from Mrs. Giovaniello with information sheet provided to applicants, Town of Brookfield Chapter 197 section concerning taxation, report from the last senior citizens and veterans tax committee dated September 2005.

Mr. Dunn appointed Mrs. McIlvaine as chair and turned the meeting over to her. Mrs. McIlvaine is also chair of Commission on Aging, whose charge is to consider the needs of seniors in town. Mrs. McIlvaine appointed Mrs. Carolan as secretary.

Mrs. McIlvaine reviewed confidentiality stipulations, most of which would not apply to this committee. She also mentioned that citizens must pay a minimum of 25% property taxes, per CT law. She listed the following areas for us to consider:

1. Understanding our current senior tax abatement program
2. Reviewing the 2005 report
3. Determining if our program is working, or if changes are needed.

We decided to determine what area towns offer seniors, and member's selected a town to study and report findings at a future meeting: Bethel, Mr. Walker; Newtown, Mrs. Donovan; New Fairfield, Mrs. Carolan; Danbury, Mr. Kass; New Milford, Mrs. Mangan.

We set the following meeting times and days: 1st Thursday of month at 7:00pm and 3rd Friday of month at 2:00 pm. We hope to meet in room 209, and Mrs. Carolan will arrange meeting place with Mrs. Giovaniello.

Our next meeting is October 5, 2017 at 7:00pm. We will invite the tax assessor to attend and review our current program, how many participate, what the cost to the town is, how it is working.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:52 pm.
Minutes provided by Alice Carolan

TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BROOKFIELD, CT
SEP 28 2017

Michelle DiBella Asst. 9:10 AM
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