



WATERTOWN COMMISSION ON AGING REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**WATERTOWN TOWN HALL
FIRST FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM
61 ECHO LAKE ROAD, WATERTOWN, CT**

Thursday, February 19, 2026

I. The meeting was called to order at 6:33 PM by Melanie Flaherty, Chair

II. Roll Call

PRESENT:

Melanie Flaherty, Chair
Cynthia Blanchard, Vice Chair
Alan Mickel
Debra Desena
Tracy Dasilva
Wilbur Hughes
Joy Goldfarb
Vacancy

ABSENT: Sally Kuslis

OTHERS PRESENT: Michael Ganem, Director of Parks, Recreation, Senior, and Social Services

III. Election of Officers

Michael Ganem called for nominations for the position of Chair

A motion was made by Alan Mickel and seconded by Wilbur Hughes to nominate Melanie Flaherty for the position of Chair.

Michael Ganem called for any other nominations.
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The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Ganem called for nominations for the position of Vice-Chair

A motion was made by Wilbur Hughes and seconded by Melanie Flaherty to nominate Alan Mickel for the position of Vice-Chair

The motion passed unanimously.

Michael Ganem called for nominations for the position of Secretary.

A motion was made by Alan Mickel to nominate Wilbur Hughes.

Michael Ganem called for any other nominations.
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The nomination passed unanimously.

IV. Public Participation

Mary Anne Lanzara
Carol Laferrier
Deb Manley
Phyliss West

All provided feedback to and asked questions of the Commission and the Director.

V. Correspondence – Spec sheet for the new 5310 Grant bus

VI. Approval of Minutes:

A. January 15, 2026, Regular Meeting

Motion by Alan Mickel, seconded by Melanie Flaherty, to approve the minutes of January 15, 2026

4 Yes: Melanie Flaherty, Cynthia Blanchard, Alan Mickel, Debra Desena. 3 Abstentions:

Tracy Dasilva, Wilbur Hughes, Joy Goldfarb

The motion passed.

VII. Reports

A. Chairman – no report

B. Parks & Recreation Director
Michael Ganem:
- Written reports were provided

C. Senior Center Coordinator/Municipal Services
Laura Garay
- Provided a written report

VIII. Old Business-

None.

IX. New Business –

Commissioners commented on the Mission Statement and their Bylaws and discussed the same. The ordinance provides some of this guidance.

Welcome new members!!!

X. Adjournment -

Motion: Alan Mickel seconded by Cynthia Blanchard to adjourn the Regular Meeting at 7:42 P.M.

The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Melanie Flaherty, Chair
Watertown Commission on Aging

Approved: _____
Susan King, Clerk