

## **Minutes of the 10/16/17 Staying Put Board Meeting**

4:30 – 5:45 pm meeting of the Board of Staying Put in New Canaan took place on Monday Oct 16 at The Congregational Church of New Canaan.

Present: Barb Achenbaum, Betsy Afragola, Judy Bentley, Carol Blauvelt, Lyn Chivvis, Lila Coleman, Kelly Defrancesco, Tom Ferguson, Patti Geanakos, Chris Hussey, Cathy Irwin, Phil Ives, Peggy Jay, Judy Johnson, Janet Lanaway, Kathy Pasternak, Lois Sandberg, Sue Scannell, Pris Thomas, Cynnie Yates.

**Operations:** A Staying Put town-wide Annual Appeal will be sent to 5,700 households. The town-wide appeal will be a new communication and reach many people Staying Put has not contacted before. The appeal will have facts, photos and a copy of our newsletter to catch people's interest. The Staying Put website is getting about 1,000 hits a month.

**Events:** Staying Put had 12 Events in September with a total of 150 attendees. Ten events are planned for October. Plans for the 10<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party on January 7, are underway. George Baker and members of the Grid Iron will provide entertainment for the party. Requests are in for dignitaries from Hartford to attend the Annual Meeting in April to present a citation to Ellie O'Neill and other founding members of Staying Put. A town-wide event will be held in the fall of 2018 to celebrate Staying Put's tenth year.

**Membership:** The Membership Committee has been calling new members to welcome them to Staying Put. Peggy Jay suggested reaching out to newcomers who move into New Canaan to make them aware of Staying Put.

**Volunteers:** A volunteer coffee was held on Sept 20. A luncheon and tour of the Gores Pavilion was also held for office volunteers.

**Publicity:** Nancy Helle is working on publicity for Staying Put's 10<sup>th</sup> year, including a story about Staying Put founding members: Ellie O'Neill, Pat Stoddard, David and Charlotte Brown and others.

**Community:** Mike Turpin, former CEO of Oxford Health, will give a presentation on medical insurance at the Library in collaboration with Staying Put and the Business Alliance.

**Transportation for seniors:** Carol Blauvelt has been meeting with organizations from southwestern Connecticut who have studied the demographics of the area and found a greater need for public transportation for seniors. The organizations include: Staying Put, GetAbout, the local Agency on Aging, the New Canaan Community Foundation, and New Canaan's Health and Human Services. The Agency on Aging advocates at the state level for senior-friendly transportation and is a pass-through for Federal money to local townships for senior transportation. Locally, the GetAbout does 12,000 rides a year and Staying Put does 4,000 a year.

Lyft is working with AARP to study how to serve the senior population. However, not all Lyft's drivers are vetted and not all are senior friendly - some drivers will not assist a passenger to their door nor help with stowing a passenger's walker.