

## **Minutes of the 3/12/18 Staying Put Board Meeting**

4:30-5:30 pm meeting of the Board of Staying Put in New Canaan took place at The Congregational Church of New Canaan.

**Present:** Barb Achenbaum, Betsy Afragola, Judy Bentley, Carol Blauvelt, Lyn Chivvis, Kelly Defrancesco, Tom Ferguson, Patti Geanakos, Phil Ives, Judy Johnson, Janet Lanaway, Kathy Pasternak, Joel Pelzner, Lois Sandberg, Priscilla Thomas

**Report on Aging:** Carol Blauvelt provided a review of the demographics of New Canaan and other towns in Southwestern CT. The report, done by SWCAA (Southwestern CT Agency on Aging), shows over 20% of the population in New Canaan is 60 years or older. That is, of the total 20,075 people in New Canaan, 4,080 are 60 or older. Of this older population, 800 have some kind of disability –vision, hearing, cognitive, and/or mobility. The demand for services includes housing, emergency services, doctors, and transportation. The number of people over 65 in Fairfield County is expected to increase by 37% in the next decade.

**Outreach to Adult Children:** Cathy Irwin, Kelly DeFrancesco, Amy Freyre and Patti Geanakos are launching a closed group Facebook page called Caring for Our Parents Everywhere (COPE.) The Facebook page will start with invitations to 20 -30 adult sons and daughters in New Canaan with aging parents. COPE will be a support group.

**Membership:** The membership committee is calling SP members to encourage them to come to events.

**Tenth Anniversary:** Lois Sandberg reported the tenth anniversary is an opportunity to show off SP's –staying power. A new 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo will be on all SP communication during this year.

**Publicity:** The next newsletter will highlight SP volunteers. SP will also run a full-page ad in the Advertiser listing our volunteers with a quote from President Judy. Patti Geanakos reported the monthly eblast will be redesigned to look more like a newspaper covering upcoming events, Nic's tips and newsy items.

**Volunteers:** A volunteer recruitment coffee will be held at the SP office on March 19 to recruit new drivers for SP.

**Events:** Six events were held in February and attended by 119 people. Upcoming events include two lunches: 3/20 lunch at Bistro du Soleil, and on 3/29 lunch at Grace Farms. Another visit to the Planetarium at the high school with faculty member Tim Haig is scheduled for 4/4. Please check the SP website for all the upcoming Events.