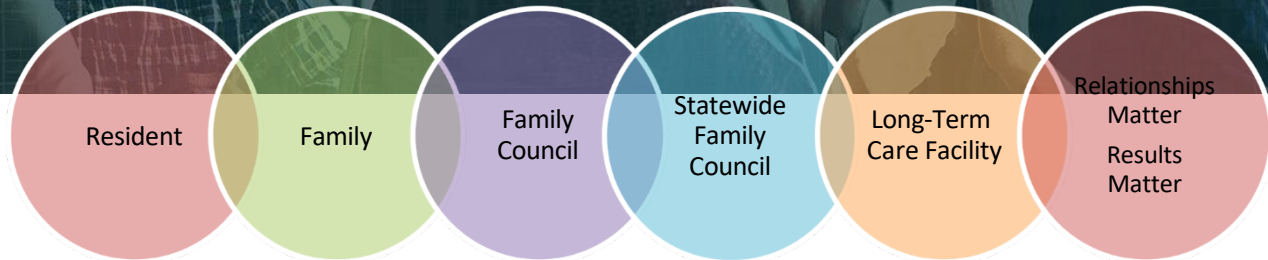


Connecticut Statewide Family Council



MINUTES TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2022

A Meeting of the CT State Family Council (CTSFC) was held on March 29, 2022, via Zoom.

The Meeting was called to order at 7:34 pm by Co-Chair, Cynthia Hadden

Co-Chairs, Cynthia Hadden and Amy Badini opened the meeting welcoming all in attendance and shared their appreciation for their interest in the Connecticut State Family Council (CTSFC).

PRESENT Cynthia Hadden Co-Chair, Amy Badini Co-Chair, Rick (Frederick) Kaeser Vice Chair, Robin DeLieto Recording Secretary, Valerie Gilberti, Eileen Shapiro, Mary Richards, Liz Stern, Lynn Sobol, Andrea Elliott, Tom Canellakis

Motion to Accept the Minutes of February 22, 2022: Rick. Second Amy. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Cynthia introduced and welcomed New Members: Tom Canellakis, Lynn Sobol, Mary Richards, and Andrea Elliott.

Cynthia polled all members to establish LTCF's represented (list attached). She also mentioned that there is not a current list of LTCF's that have Family Council's so if anyone is aware of LTCF that has one, please let her know.

Guest speaker - Eileen Shapiro, Apple Rehab Mystic Family Council
Liz Stern, was the Founding Member. Eileen mentioned that they missed the support and information from others when the pandemic hit and restrictions limited movement through facility. The Family Council has 3 members and meets once a month @ 4pm for 1.5 hrs. Eileen mentioned that during Covid they moved to virtual meetings. Discussions items/questions are brought to the facility for response. Facility email updates have started again. The Family Council has bought gifts for staff and residents for holidays to show appreciation. Mary puts together baskets for staff. Outbreak mode has paused activities. Eileen noted that the Family Council seeks to meet every 6 months with the Resident Council. She mentioned that if the Responsible Party approves, they are able to visit others' family/friends. The FC is looking into an entertainment program (music) for residents. Mary stated how much she appreciates the camaraderie and how emotionally nourishing the Mystic Family Council is. Liz asked why is it so hard to get people to join. It's not a Facility, it's their home and a "neighborhood". "Block party". Council naturally supports staff. Amy stated that LTC units are a resident's home – they are not patients, they are residents.

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Val asked when a resident tests positive at Lord Chamberlain, they are moved out of their room and not able to go back. (Mother moved 2x). Cynthia mentioned that according to Resident Rights, they are to return to their original room after quarantine and suggested Val reach out to her Regional Ombudsman who will help advocate for her. Amy also mentioned that the Centers for Medicare Advocacy (CMA) and that it is a national organization with a local office in CT. Cinnamon St. John can be contacted at 860-456-7790 for advice/assistance.

Tom mentioned that communications are mostly regarding COVID guidelines and visitation, weekly updates are no longer happening. Can Ombudsman attend meetings periodically and if the Council could have a Message Board/ Q & A page on the CTSFC website? Amy responded that the LTC Ombudsman will attend the CTSFC meetings quarterly. Cynthia thought the Q & A page would be a great addition and will inquire.

Cynthia announced that the LTC Ombudsman, Mairead Painter will attend the April meeting. This will be a podcast and Amy and Cynthia will ask questions on behalf of the CTSFC. Please submit your questions in advance to Cynthia so she can share them with the Ombudsman in advance of the meeting.

Cynthia announced that Rick has agreed to be Vice Chair and Robin as Recording Secretary. Rick did a nice job polishing Vision/Mission and Robin does a great job with the Minutes. Officers are now all in place.

Tom inquired about the Bylaws stating only family members/friends of current residents can participate. There is expertise in local community with former members who lost loved ones that want to continue to advocate. Can we include them? Amy responded that currently you have to have a family member or friend but due to privacy, others are currently not allowed to be members even though they still may have the passion for the advocating for the cause. Cynthia responded that this is something that will require legislative action but due to the short session, we will likely need to address this in the next session. Eileen mentioned that the reasoning is due to confidentiality.

Rick provided an overview of the Vision/Mission, Organizational Statement, based on Public Acts And that the Vision, was revised to state what we want to see done. He reviewed the Mission's, Objectives and Goals, advocating for residents to strive for a higher quality of care and finally the Organizational, officers, meetings, etc. There were no changes recommended.

Motion to accept Vision/Mission: - Lynn. Second Amy. Motion passed unanimously by those present.

Amy provided a Legislative update. Nationally - Essential Caregivers Act proposed by House of Rep. Excess deaths were mostly from isolation, not disease. Essential Support Person uncovered staffing shortages. All 5 CT Reps have signed on to support Essential Caregivers Act and it will go to the Senate. CT passed the Public Act 21-71-Essential Support Persons Act June 24, 2021 however the language has not yet been completed. We are waiting still. Most facilities are not even educated about it yet.

Tom asked if we are working with any of the lobby groups for the Nursing Homes. Amy responded; the American Health Care Assoc. are in favor of this.

Cynthia - **Next meeting Tuesday, April 26th @ 7pm**. Amy - Meeting will be recorded as a Podcast.

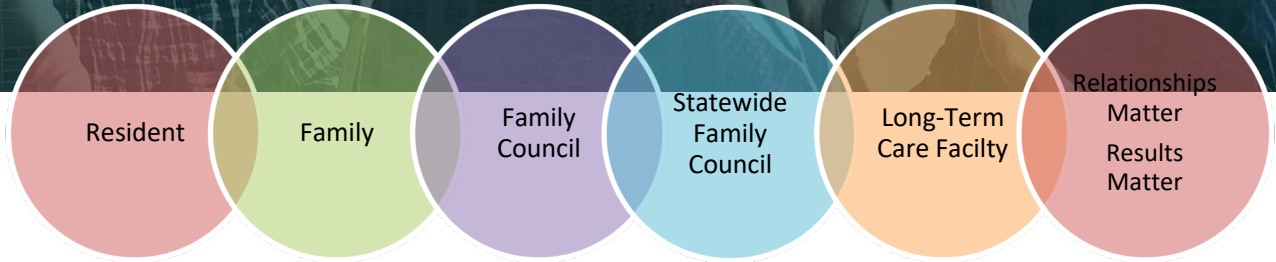
Please remember to send agenda items at least 10 days in advance.

Motion to Adjourn: Rick. Amy second.

Meeting adjourned: 8:50pm

Respectfully submitted,
Robin DeLieto, Recording Secretary

Connecticut Statewide Family Council



LONG TERM CARE FACILITIES REPRESENTED

Apple Rehab

Mystic, CT

Geer Nursing

Canaan, CT

Guilford House

Guilford, CT

Lord Chamberlain

Stratford, CT

Lord Chamberlain

Stratford, CT

Nathaniel Witherell

Greenwich, CT

Portland Care & Rehab

Portland, CT

Silver Springs Care

Meriden, CT

Vernon Manor

Vernon, CT