



APPROVED 8/15/2022

Town of Newbury Council on Aging
Meeting Minutes
Date: July 18, 2022

Members in attendance: Bill DiMaio, Susan Grillo, Chris Howe, Chuck Bear, Damon Jespersen

Also in attendance: Cindy Currier

Call to Order:

Damon moved to open the meeting. Chuck seconded.

Public Comment:

none; no one in attendance.

Review and Approval of June 27, 2022 Council on Aging Meeting Minutes:

Motion to approve by Damon; seconded by Chuck. Unanimous approval: Bill, Susan, Chris, Chuck, Damon.

Presentation of COA van replacement by Chair:

Bill reviewed the draft proposal for the replacement of Council of Aging (COA) van

Vote to present to the Select Board next week

To be part of the asset list, the vehicle has to be at least 6yrs old and more than 100k miles.

It is already listed in the Newbury Capital plan inventory.

Discussion about the benefits of replacing the van early.

Susan asked if there is any trade-in value that can be applied to offset the \$175k cost.

Also asked if there is intent to solicit another quote from a second vendor.

Question raised by Damon. When asking for grant money, better ask for more than you need.

Add the client's concerns within the proposal. The lag time and overlap time if we don't do the trade-in. How long will it take to get the van?

Damon made a motion to for recommendations made by board members to be incorporated into the draft. Motion seconded by Chuck Bear.

Discussion of changing the time of the monthly meetings:

Bill asked for members to send a note to him with suggestions on convenient times to hold future Board meetings.

Chairperson's Report:

Bill acknowledged to the board members the work that Cindy and her husband have spent a lot of time readying the new COA space. They've dedicated much time to opening and sorting through the boxes of furniture and supplies that have arrived for the new COA facility. Cindy has also had a volunteer assisting with assembling the chairs, etc.

Council on Aging Director's Report

- Regular programs are ongoing: exercise classes, game nights, bingo, watercolor class, etc. Participation is steady.
- Increasing van offerings: Tuesday afternoons 12-2pm for local medical appointments.

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- Grab and Go Traveling Chef meal (through AgeSpan) moving to in-person meal at the COA 1x/month beginning in October.
- New programs coming up:
 - Mindfulness workshop with volunteer instructor Kathy Dunfee 8/25 @ 1pm)
 - Ice cream sandwich social (8/31 at 1pm)
 - Homemade greeting card workshop (9/8 @ 1pm)
 - Animal World Experience: Matt Gabriel will bring several small animals; show and tell; can touch animals if you want to (9/20 @ 1pm)
 - SHINE info session (9/27 5-6:30pm); open enrollment is Oct. 15 – Dec. 7 (individual appointments will be available; waiting to hear if they will still be remote or in-person).
- Volunteers:
 - Have several people ready to help
 - Have two needs:
 - Receptionist (M-TH 10a-2p)
 - Van Assistant (T & TH morning trips)
- New space is ready; some furniture has been delivered; waiting on move of Comcast for staff to move in.
- Open House scheduled for Tuesday, 10/18 from 2-6pm. More details will be in next newsletter.
- 19th Annual Newburyport Chocolate Tour is Saturday, 10/1 12-4pm. Newbury COA will again be a recipient of the proceeds (along with 3 other COAs and a few other local non-profits). Support the cause and get your tickets! Info in newsletter.

New Business:

- Soliciting additional members for the COA board. If interested, send a note to the select board.
- Sunday, Aug 7th at 4pm. Brief ceremony of Newbury being a Purple Heart Town. Will be held at the Upper Green.
- Mon, Aug 15th will be the next meeting.

Executive Session:

None

Adjourn:

Motion to adjourn by Chuck; seconded by Damon; unanimous approval.

Meeting Adjourned