



Town of Newbury Council on Aging
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Date: October 18, 2021

Approved

In attendance Joyce Machiros, Bill DiMaio, Chuck Bear, Damon Jespersen, Susan Grillo, Cindy Currier

Damon moved to open seconded by Bill

Moment of silence in Recognition of Geri Dorr service

Public Comment:

Jack Rybicki: Justification of his previous disruption and attempt to claim the bylaw is unclear. Request for engagement numbers.

Susan Grillo introduced by Joyce

Bill moved to approve the August minutes seconded by Chuck approved by Joyce, Chuck, Bill, Damon

Bill moved to approve the September minutes seconded by Chuck approved by Joyce, Chuck, Bill, Damon

Space Discussion: Tracy Blais recognized to discuss the space needs, programs, and thoughts involved with moving COA to Kent Way. Negotiations are underway. Time table is still flexible, but it is hoped to be completed by the first of the year. The American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (ARPA) grant funds will cover all costs associated with move and build out. The expected total COA space will be 3600 square feet.

Legal Opinion about quorum. Moved for discussion on requirements Damon and seconded by Bill. Bill stated the required quorum numbers 3 for 5, 4 for 6 or 7, 5 for 8 or 9.

Status of existing bylaws: Bill also discussed the procedure for changing bylaws and the steps that would have to be completed.

Meeting times: Damon moved that meeting times start at 9 am on the 3rd Monday of the month starting in November, seconded by Chuck. Voted unanimously

Council on Aging Directors report:

- Expenses – see Expenditure report (emailed to COA Board Members prior to the meeting)
- Donations received (\$587.00)
 - Mostly general donations from van rides and grab and go meals; \$500 from The Central Congregational Church for prescriptions and transportation. Am reaching out to CCC to confirm the use; also have calls out to other COA Directors who receive this donation to see how they are using it.

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- October's Grab and Go this Wednesday, 10/20 (bratwurst; German potato salad; apple strudel). We have increased the # of meals to 35 this month. Next month is scheduled for 11/17 (either Beef Wellington or Beef Burgundy; roasted potatoes; honey glazed carrots; apple pie). Currently we have 36 meals reserved). Participation often depends upon the menu.
- Programs:
 - Gentle Yoga class weekly on Wednesdays at Central Street Field House (or outside if weather permits). Filmed a PSA with the students from the Theater Workshop; airing on Channel 9.
 - Senior Stretch and Strength class resumed today; Mondays at 10:30am. Five participants today. Class is tailored to individual needs.
 - Delvena Theatre production of "Lizzie Borden and the 40 Whacks" – interactive performance; several people attended; Theater snacks served (popcorn machine; candy; drinks). Looking to work with them again (outside of the Cultural Council grant).
 - A-OK Theater Workshop performances: this Saturday (4 stops planned) and next Saturday (5 stops planned). Program: "Meet and Treat!" The students will dress in traditional Halloween costumes; meet and treat to seniors doors and give the seniors a treat bag! Then do a quick 10-15 minute performance. COA will put together treat bags for the seniors to give to the students.
 - Bingo is bumped up to twice a month due to seniors' wish to play more often. Today is birthday bingo. We celebrate everyone's birthdays for the month and have cupcakes and ice cream. Scheduled for the first and third Mondays of each month.
 - Van trip next Thursday, 10/28 to Russell Orchards and a drive to see the foliage.
 - Once a month Mary Ann from Senator Tarr's office will be available at the Council on Aging from 12-1pm to meet with constituents if they have any questions or concerns they would like brought to Senator Tarr's attention. Oct: Thursday, 10/21; Nov: Thursday, 11/18. Rep. Mirra will be there as well (was in today's paper).
 - Flu shot clinic: Tuesday, 10/26. Currently have 5 seniors scheduled. This is not the high-dose vaccine. Will confer with Deb Rogers to be sure all in town know they can sign up. Other date: 11/2 (4-6pm).
 - Rep from PACE (Program for All-Inclusive Care for the Elderly) on 11/2 at 12pm (COA).
 - Next watercolor class: Tuesday, 11/16 10am-1pm. Holiday themed painting.
 - Pie tasting on Thursday, 11/18 11:30am-1:30pm (COA). Pies are being ordered today.
 - Shopping every Tuesday morning to Market Basket. This week the seniors requested to go to Rowley Market Basket.
 - Virtual programs continue on Channel 9; found them using Mass Access; Newbury is a member so we are free to use any programs on Mass Access; funded by the PEG (Public, Educational, and Governmental Access) funds

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- Take home activity kits very popular. Have two suet feeders left.
- Outreach – Janet continues to talk with seniors and their families via phone and in person to answer questions/offer guidance. She will start offering home visits again as needed.
- NEET Program – continues to be a much-needed program. Rides vary week to week, but there are many repeat riders.
- New Van Driver will be added to the team soon.

Other business: Damon moved to adjourn seconded by Chuck. All in Favor.