



APPROVED

Town of Newbury Council on Aging
Meeting Minutes
Date: July 17, 2023

Members in attendance: Damon Jespersen, Joyce Machiros, John Ferrara, Chuck Bear, Susan Grillo, Chris Howe, Gerry DiMaio, Jeanine Cunningham

Other attendees: Cindy Currier

Motion to open the meeting made by Damon Jespersen, seconded by Chuck Bear
Unanimous approval.

Audience: Bill DiMaio
No comments made.

Introductions: all members introduced themselves and welcomed Gerry and Jeanine.

Motion to approve Minutes of June 26, 2023 meeting made by John Ferrara, seconded by Joyce Machiros. Unanimous approval.

Discussion re: petitioning Select Board to allow a COA flyer to be included with the tax bill in lieu of mailing a newsletter to every household. Members agreed that the newsletter should still be mailed out to all on Cindy's mailing list, but should also be included in the tax bill to reach every household in Town of Newbury. Flyer should include COA mission statement, explain what we do, and ask recipient for their ideas. Chris suggested setting up a Google document that participants can contribute input to. Chris can orchestrate this Google idea and she will work with Cindy to develop a brief, but graphically impactful flyer.

Damon Jespersen will contact Tracey Blaze about this COA flyer idea.

Flyer should also make reference to and be posted on COA Facebook Page and website.

Motion to move forward to put the flyer in the next tax bill made by Chuck Bear, seconded by Chris Howe. Unanimous approval.

Damon Jespersen thanked everyone for voting him in as Chairperson and for entrusting this important position and responsibility to him. He requested that as a board, we all start attending and participating in COA events and bring a friend to set an example for others.

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Director's Report:

- Traveling Chef: Monday, 8/7 @ 12pm; Tuesday, 9/5 @ 12pm
- Veterans Brunch @ PITA Hall: Tuesday, 8/8 @ 10:30am
- 50s themed BBQ @ PITA Hall: Tuesday, 8/22 @ 12pm (hot dogs; burgers; 50s music by Joseph Nocera from The Gemstones)
- Game Night: Tuesday, 8/29 (desserts only) & Tuesday, 9/12 @ 4:30pm
- The Clutter Queen (Rhea Becker) presentation: Tuesday, 9/19; light dinner at 4:30pm; presentation at 5:30pm. Will discuss Swedish Death Cleaning – excerpt from The Clutter Queen website: *Cleaning out the home of a loved one who has recently died or entered a nursing home is something most people dread, especially if they have no idea what to do with the all the items their loved one has accumulated.*

Enter the Swedish death clean. It may sound morbid, but it can actually lighten the burden of grieving loved ones. Popularized in the book "The Gentle Art of Swedish Death Cleaning," by 80-something artist Margareta Magnusson, Swedish death cleaning is basically decluttering in your later years so that someone else doesn't have to do it for you.

- COA is closed Monday, September 4th for observance of Labor Day.
- Next newsletter going to the printer early next week.
- In need of volunteer NEET drivers. If you are interested in driving Newbury seniors to medical appointments (local or as far as Boston), give us a call and we can connect you with NEET.
- Will be posting the ad for the Outreach Coordinator position shortly.

New Business:

- For information only: Byfield Car Show 9/8 introduced by Chuck Bear, hopefully at Byfield Center. Alternative locations suggested were COA building parking lot or Plum Island Airfield.
- Permanent home for COA – John Ferrara introduced idea and all agreed to add to next month's meeting agenda to discuss in more detail. Things to include: 0.5 Lunt Street location (John Ferrara), Upper Green (old town hall building), regionalization of COA and cost to stay in current location (Chuck Bear). Gerry DiMaio suggested we need to get Cindy's Team input -- very important since they are the people who will be working there and they know needs best.
- Recruiting NEET drivers, especially for long road trips -- Cindy (ongoing need)

Motion to establish August 14, 2023 as the next meeting made by Damon Jespersen, seconded by John Ferrara. Unanimous approval.

Motion to adjourn by Damon Jespersen, seconded by Chuck Bear. Unanimous approval.