



APPROVED

Town of Newbury Council on Aging
Meeting Minutes
Date: January 23, 2023

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

Other attendees: Cindy Currier

Motion to open the meeting made by Joyce Machiros, seconded by John Ferrara. Unanimously passed.

Public Comment: None

Motion to approve Minutes of December 18, 2022 meeting. Motion to approve made by Joyce Machiros, seconded by Susan Grillo. Chris and Susan abstained. Minutes approved.

Chair Report: Bill DiMaio

Reviewed the meeting with the Friends of the Newbury COA that Cindy and he had in September. The Friends had planned a membership drive mailing to 2,200; however bylaws of the Friends currently define a member as having a right to vote. They said that they would not be doing a membership drive, but rather a fundraising drive in October. Bill asked for feedback on the fundraising efforts and reached out to Deb Kennedy, but has not received any response.

Friends had previously agreed to meet with Cindy Currier and Bill DiMaio quarterly, but that has not happened and the COA knows very little about any of the group's activities.

Bill spoke about the upcoming game night and the importance of social interaction, which is 4:30-6:30 held at the Council of Aging's offices. Encouraged attendance by the members and getting the word out.

Director's Report:

- Next month is a Newsletter Cycle (February/March). Several upcoming programs:
- Movie Matinees: see calendar for dates and movies. Movie snacks will be served!
- Bingo – see the calendar for dates
- Monthly Blood Pressure Clinics are starting! First Monday of each month at 12pm: February 6th and March 6th
- Coffee with a Cop is starting! Second Wednesday of every month at 10am. Deputy Chief Aaron Wojtkowski will be here on Feb. 8th (discussion topic: elder scams); next one planned for March 8th.
- Make Your Own Valentines: February 9th at 1pm
- Valentine's Day lunch at the COA: Tuesday, February 14th at 12pm. RSVP...limited seats!
- Coffee & Conversation Starters with Kathy – see calendar for dates

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- Game Nights: February 28th and March 21st at 4:30pm. REMINDER: January's Game Night is January 24th - DINNER & DESSERT IS ALWAYS SERVED!
- Watercolors with Bill Duke: February 21st and March 14th
- Traveling Chef meals: Thursday, February 23rd and Wednesday, March 1st at 12pm. RSVP ONE WEEK BEFORE THE MEAL (Feb. 16th and Feb. 22nd)
- St. Patrick's Day Lunch at PITA Hall: Wednesday, March 15th at 12pm (RSVP BY WEDNESDAY, MARCH 8TH!)
- Gordon College Center for Balance Seminar: Thursday, March 23rd at 1pm
- Delvena Theatre Group: Meet Julie Child Monday, March 27th @ 1pm
- AARP TaxAide – one day! Monday, March 27th BY APPOINTMENT ONLY
- Opening Day @ Fenway Ice Cream Social: March 30th at 1pm
- Our van is making weekly trips to Market Basket and other local Newburyport destinations on Tuesday mornings. Tuesday afternoons for local medical appointments are available upon request – please call Kathy to schedule. Additional Thursdays are being added as the Van Driver's schedule permits; call the COA and ask to speak with Kathy for dates.
- Need 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. Game night in January – Tuesday, 1/24 4:30-6:30pm.

New Business:

Bill set an expectation that 2023 will be a year of recruitment. Challenge to increase COA program participation.

Executive Session: None

Motion to establish February 27, 2023 at 9:00am for next meeting made by Bill DeMaio.
Seconded by John Ferrara. Approved unanimously.

Motion to adjourn by Bill DeMaio; seconded by John Ferrara; approved unanimously.