



APPROVED 5/15/2023

Town of Newbury Council on Aging
Meeting Minutes
Date: April 24, 2023

Members in attendance: Susan Grillo, Joyce Machiros, William DiMaio, John Ferrara, Chuck Bear, Damon Jespersen (arrived late)

Other attendees: Cindy Currier

Motion to open the meeting made by Chuck Bear, seconded by John Ferrara. Unanimous approval.

Motion to approve Minutes of March 20, 2023 meeting made by Chuck Bear, seconded by Joyce Machiros. Unanimous approval.

Chair Report: Bill DiMaio

Discussion of inclement weather statement or policy concluded that the Director would prepare and vet.

Compared COA survey results with current, available COA activities. Excellent correlation.

Reminder that the term of Jespersen, Grillo, Howe and Bear expire in June, 2023 and that requests for continuation of appointment requires that a written request is sent to the Select Board in May.

Discussion and reminder that the process for nominations for leadership roles on the COA Board will occur in May.

Discussion of public participation during open meetings

Director's Report:

- Mahjong group is growing. Meet on Tuesdays @ 1pm
- Started a new group: rug braiding. That group is at its maximum right now
- Candidate Forum is Monday, May 1 at 11am. If there will be a quorum of COA Members present, I will need to post it as an open meeting; please advise if you will be attending
- Pickleball starts Tuesday, May 2nd at 9am. First two meetings are for beginners (5/2 and 5/4); must register for this event. Beginning May 9th experienced players are Tuesdays; beginners will be Thursdays
- Coffee With a Cop Wednesday, May 10th @ 10am at the COA
- Mother's Day Tea Thursday, May 11th at 12pm
- Traveling Chef Monday, May 15th at 12pm; please call to reserve your spot
- Beeyond – virtual tours with live local tour guides. We visited the Keukenhof Gardens

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in the Netherlands this month; will be touring the Pyramids by Camel in Egypt on Thursday, May 18th at 10am

- Cooking for One presentation by AgeSpan Dietitian Leah Hartwell on Thursday, May 18th at 1pm (this was left off the calendar by accident but it is in the newsletter)
- Watercolors with Bill Duke: Tuesday, May 21st @ 10am
- Game Night Tuesday, May 21st at 4:30pm
- Veterans Lunch Thursday, May 25th at 12pm. Spouses are invited to attend
- COA is closed Monday, May 29th for observe Memorial Day
- It is best to call the COA to register for any programs you want to attend. This allows us to plan appropriately in terms of ordering food and supplies. Alternatively, we appreciate if people can call us if they need to cancel their reservations, as that will allow us to offer their spot to someone on a waitlist (for programs that have limited spots, like the watercolor class) as well as allowing us to adjust food orders.
- We had a Volunteer Luncheon on Tuesday, April 20th. This annual luncheon is a small way for us to thank the volunteers who help us throughout the year to let them know how much we appreciate them. We would not be able to offer certain services, like Friendly Visits/Calls or Grocery Shopping, without the help of our volunteers. Same thing for larger programs. We have a limited staff, so the extra hands of our volunteers at our larger functions is always much appreciated.
- Kathy is working on programs for the next two months. The June/July newsletter will be sent to the printer in mid-May to be in mailboxes by the first week of June.
- As always, the need for 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. This is an invaluable service to the seniors of Newbury!

New Business:

- Reminder about the Annual Town Meeting date - Jespersen
- Update of COA info to be included in PITA newsletter - Grillo
- Suggestion to establish a committee to refresh COA space needs - Ferrara
- Discussion of COA lease term at Kent Way- Bear

Motion to establish May 15, 2023 as the next meeting made by Chuck Bear, seconded by Damon Jespersen. Unanimous approval.

Motion to adjourn by Chuck Bear, seconded by John Ferrara. Unanimous approval.