



**Regular meeting minutes of the
Council on Aging Board**

Date: 9/9/2020

Place: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Diane Boisvert, Fred Brusseau, Paul Der Ananian, Ruth l'Anson, Jan Mounsey, Louise Myers, Ami O'Grady, Len Olenchak, Debi Siriani, Anne Smith, Dianne Sperry

Members Absent: Mary Gibson, Jennifer Hardy

Moment of silence was observed for Steve Flynn.

Minutes of the March meeting were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Transportation program continues to provide rides to doctors' appointments, the grocery store, etc.
- MOW activity has increased since the shutdown. Meals are delivered by staff, not by volunteers. The budget for this program is not enough to cover the increased expenses. OK for now, but it will become a problem if the shutdown continues.
- Day program has reopened on a limited basis. In order to provide social distancing, the program is currently using two rooms: the existing social day program room and room B07. Enrollment size is also reduced. Because of the smaller enrollment, this program is also operating in the red.
- Companion program is operating with phone visits only.
- Kitchen renovation is scheduled to begin after the election.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- President Trump suspended payroll taxes for employees from Sept. to Dec. There is concern that this suspension may become permanent. Because it is a major source of social security funding, seniors are encouraged to contact their representatives to urge them to retain the payroll tax.
- State budget continues at its previous level.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building/Capital Planning

- Steve Flynn was the chairman of the Capital Planning Committee. Jan Mounsey volunteered to chair the next meeting to review the 5-year plan.

Program Committee

- Programs are largely being held via zoom and via phone.
- In-person sit-and-get-fit classes are continuing through the end of October; the Center picked up the BOH weekly walking session for the month of October.
- Weekly bingo games continue via phone.
- Zoom social and support programs take place throughout the month.
- Several presentations have been recently scheduled for Zoom and telemedia.
- Natalie is working closely with the telemedia staff, which has been sponsoring a “Senior Block” of programming.

Age-Friendly Committee

In August, Fred Brusseau distributed a copy of Chelmsford’s Age-Friendly Action Plan. We did not discuss this document during the Sept. meeting, but it will be a topic for the October meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Debi Siriani will check on the status of the additional exercise bike that was ordered pre-COVID.
- Solar panels for the roof
- Chelmsford’s Age-Friendly Action Plan
- Covering the pergola

NEXT MEETING: October 14, 2020

Minutes submitted by Ruth I’Anson, Recording Secretary