



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

Date: 3/10/2021

Place: Virtual Zoom Meeting

Members Present: Diane Boisvert, Fred Brusseau, Ruth l'Anson, Jan Mounsey, Louise Myers, Ami O'Grady, Debi Siriani, Dianne Sperry

Members Absent: Paul Der Ananian, Jennifer Hardy, Mary Gibson

Guest: Tim Sherry, who is interested in becoming a member of the COA.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved.

UNANTICIPATED TOPICS

- Fred Brusseau announced that Anne Smith has resigned from the Council on Aging board. Anne was a long-time member and will be missed.
- If you know someone who is interested in joining the COA Board, either as member or associate member, please have them contact the Town Manager or Fred Brusseau.
- If you are interested in the Vice Chair position, please notify a member of the nominating committee (Ami O'Grady, Paul Der Ananian, Ruth l'Anson). Elections will be held in June (for the new fiscal year which starts in July).

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- COVID vaccinations:
 - Senior Center staff is helping schedule appointments for seniors who do not have the ability to do it on their own.
 - Elder Services is arranging vaccines at regional sites and each COA will be given a number of slots.
 - Chelmsford Housing Authority will be getting vaccine for residents who cannot get to vaccination sites.
- Three tax preparers are seeing clients at the Center four days a week.
- The walking group, which was disbanded for the winter, is starting up in April.
- Installation of new raised garden beds has been put on hold due to the escalating cost of construction.
- Town election will be held at Senior Center on April 6. Town meeting has been postponed.
- Opening porch for social gatherings is under consideration.

- \$20K state grant approved for social day program.
- Kitchen update postponed until June. Grease trap work completed; design almost done.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- Capitol Hill is working on getting the stimulus package to the President's desk.
- On Beacon Hill:
6500 bills were filed and are still being sorted. Among them is a property tax bill designed to help seniors defer tax bills. Chelmsford has such a program with an 8% interest rate on deferred taxes. (Rates are established by towns.)
Another bill that has been filed concerns nursing home improvements, including infection control.

AGE-FRIENDLY CHELMSFORD INITIATIVE

- The Age-Friendly Chelmsford Action Plan has been approved by AARP.
- The Chelmsford Select Board has approved nine nominees for the Age-Friendly Chelmsford Implementation Committee.

NEXT MEETING: April 14, 2021