



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

Date: 3/11/2020

Place: Senior Center

Room: B07

75 Groton Road, No. Chelmsford, MA 01824

Members Present: Diane Boisvert, Fred Brusseau, Ruth l'Anson, Louise Myers, Len Olenchak, Debi Siriani, Anne Smith, Dianne Sperry

Members Absent: Paul Der Ananian, Mary Gibson, Jennifer Hardy, Jan Mounsey, Ami O'Grady
Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes of the February meeting were approved.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- As information about the pandemic becomes available, Debi Siriani has been talking to the Board of Health and Town Manager about how to respond. The situation is very fluid at this point. Debi's expectation is that the St. Patrick's day lunch will be canceled.
- Intergenerational dementia-friendly training session planned, as well as a memory café.
- Turnout at the Volunteer Fair was small.
- Jan Mounsey has accepted a position as a full-time board member, replacing Steve Flynn.
- Kitchen manager is back part-time.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

- On Beacon Hill, the legislature passed a supplemental budget that increased money for SNAP.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Building Committee

- Met with Board of Health and health inspectors to start talking about the kitchen remodel. Money is expected to be approved by Town Meeting. The hope is the work will start in September/October. Elder Services will help provide for meals-on-wheels. Waiting for a time estimate.
- Front awning is out for repair.

Program Committee

- Program Committee met and came up with assignments. Louise checked with AARP on a socialization program, but learned the Senior Center was not an appropriate venue. Jennifer Hardy is looking into a Line Dancing Social; Ruth l'Anson is arranging for a fall series on "Hot Topics." Ruth is also reaching out to the library staff members for information about their program sources.
- Diane Boisvert suggested a Charlie Card event where members can get a senior pass without going into Boston. Diane will follow up on this idea.
- Fred Brusseau announced that he is trying to organize a Ukulele class.
- Ruth has prepared a draft document that describes how a program gets introduced into the Senior Center. She will be passing it on to Debi and Natalie for feedback.

Age-Friendly Committee

- The committee signed a contract with UMass Boston's Department of Gerontology. They will conduct community input forums at the end of April to review the various domains of the Age-Friendly domains.
- Master Plan Update committee will have a public visioning meeting to hear what participants feel about where they want the town to be in 10 years.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- Additional bike is on order for the Fitness Center. Debi to follow up on when it will arrive. Fred is working with others to determine where it should be placed and if it requires external power.
- PT volunteer met with Natalie to schedule times for her to come in and work with Fitness Center members. Tentative plan is for the therapist to schedule visits twice a month.
- Debi is setting up procedures for updating the sign.

NEW BUSINESS

- Front curb has become a tripping hazard. Debi has talked to Town Hall to come up with options that will make it safer.
- Debi is getting quotes on rug squares for the office and social day program. She thinks rugs are better than a hard surface because of the noise in both areas.
- Possible topics for the next Perspectives document include rental policy for weekend/night use of the Senior Center; update of the bathrooms; increase in staff hours/personnel.

NEXT MEETING: September 9, 2020

Minutes submitted by Ruth l'Anson, Recording Secretary