

COUNCIL ON AGING
Community Hall/Senior Center
Meeting Minutes Wednesday, July 28, 2021

Present: Victoria Burrington, Margaret Freeman, Donna Hyytinen, Sue Lively, Cathy Tallen; *Guests* Eileen Lively, Hilma Sumner

The meeting was called to order at 2:03 p.m.

Agenda review: Sue Lively added an item regarding an invitation from the Select Board.

Welcome and Introductions

Victoria Burrington is a hospice nurse; served on the Council on Aging in 2020.

Margaret Freeman, retired from college teaching; is an academic and writer.

Donna Hyytinen, retired from Sun Life/Phoenix in Medical Insurance matters; served on the Council on Aging in 2020.

Sue Lively, retired from school teaching at Hawlemont; currently serving on the Select Board.

Cathy Tallen, retired from Brattleboro Intensive Care as nurse and educator; currently the Heath SHINE coordinator.

Eileen Lively, former Senior Center Coordinator, provided background information on history of the Council on Aging and Senior Center, state programs and grants, and offered her help to the Council as it progresses.

Brief overview of Open Meeting Law: Sue Lively distributed a one-page summary of the Open Meeting Law and agreed to provide copies of town counsel's training session to council members.

Goals and Duties: Discussion focused on four immediate goals:

1. Need to reactivate activities and opportunities for 60+ seniors.
2. Updated job description for Senior Center Coordinator (Hilma to circulate), including SCC membership on the Council On Aging, and future reimbursement for the position.
3. Maximizing grant opportunities.
4. Creating an all-inclusive survey of all Heath seniors.

Motion for the town coordinator to invite Nour Elkhattaby Strauch, LifePath Age-Friendly Program Manager to meet with the Council to discuss steps needed for Heath to join the Age-Friendly Community Initiative. M/S/P: Margaret, Victoria, unanimous.

Election of Officers

Chair: Victoria Burrington. Duties to include responsibility for agenda content and posting meeting notice at Sawyer Hall. M/S/P: Sue, Donna, unanimous.

Secretary and IT: Margaret Freeman. Duties to include taking of meeting minutes and posting meeting notice, agenda, and approved minutes to the COA Heath town website page. Two motions: M/S/P: Sue, Victoria, unanimous; M/S/P: Sue, Donna, unanimous.

Future Actions

It was agreed that the COA would start by meeting every two weeks on Thursdays at 2:00 p.m. Dates: August 12, 26; September 9, 23.

The Select Board invited the COA to meet with them on August 10. COA members agreed to recommend meeting with the Select Board on Tuesday August 24 at 6:05 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 3:38. M/S/P: Sue, Victoria, unanimous.