

Council on Aging
Zoom Meeting
Minutes Thursday, February 3, 2022, 2:00 p.m.

Present: Victoria Burrington, Margaret Freeman, Donna Hyytinen, Sue Lively, Cathy Tallen.

Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m.

Information on a Life Path technology day was added to the agenda.

M/S/P Cathy, Sue, unanimous: to approve the 01/27/22 minutes as corrected.

Margaret has sent the town coordinator the two survey attachments with names removed.

Status of Room 135: The Select Board has deferred any discussion of Room 135 assignment until they have a more general discussion on needs and use of the former elementary school building. Ranking of the town coordinator position was discussed, and both items are pending for further Select Board discussion within the next month.

Finances: Regarding the foot care account, discrepancies indicate something is wrong. A negative balance is shown for end of 2021, and it appears that no credit has been recorded for the grant received from Life Path in October, 2021. Victoria and Eileen will check the records for the past two years before consulting with the accountant on the discrepancies. Further research on the Hands X Town Nurse account indicates that it is specifically designated for medical equipment for those needing it without the necessary insurance to pay for it. Margaret and Victoria met to go over the Chatlos grant possibility, and Victoria will follow-up her email to them concerning whether we are eligible with a phone call.

Exercise Planning: Donna contacted Stan Swiercz who would be delighted to run two 1½-hour tai chi classes gratis per week at the gym for those fully vaccinated, wearing masks, and respecting social distance. Victoria will check with Pat McGahan regarding the possibility of reserving gym space Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10-12. Victoria contacted Kate Peppard who would be happy to run a yoga program. Kate is checking with Life Path for funding, and Victoria will ask her about the Cultural Council grant possibility. Meanwhile, BOH will be contacted regarding restriction criteria for in-person gatherings. BOH COVID subcommittee members have been named and will be meeting the second Thursday of each month. Cathy will contact Gene Garland with general questions on starting exercise programs.

COA meeting with BOH: BOH's primary function is to help people in the event of an emergency. A question was raised whether BOH interacts with Life Path. After discussion over areas and programs COA would like to address with the BOH, Sue created a list to send to Sue Gruen that included:

- clarification on what they offer and to whom;
- how we can coordinate with them;
- how they get referrals for help;
- who is helping in getting help;
- whether we can work with BOH on providing non-emergency services where needed.

Sue Gruen will be invited to attend the next COA meeting on 2/17 at 2:00 p.m.

Volunteer polling: Cathy will put the complete list of self-named volunteers from the senior survey on Slack. Members will check the list from their own records and add names if necessary. Victoria will create a list of 4-5 general possibilities for volunteering.

Life Path technology day: COA is signed up for college interns to teach elders on computer use on March 21 from 1-3. Victoria will check to find out what is needed for space and supplies and will put information on Slack.

M/S/P Cathy, Donna, unanimous to adjourn at 3:14 p.m.