

**Council on Aging  
Cafeteria Meeting, 18 Jacobs Road  
Minutes Thursday, March 17, 2022**

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

**Absent:** Sue Lively

Meeting called to order at 2:01 p.m.

**Review Agenda:** Items added: Art program in Room 135; COVID update; Community Café.

M/S/P Cathy, Donna, unanimous: to approve the 03/03/22 minutes as written.

**Transportation:** Cathy summarized the four transportation offerings by FRTA and LifePath. Three come to Heath, with two having to complete an application to qualify. All have costs, with FRTA programs only eligible for non-MassHealth holders who have to contact another entity..

1. LifePath: "Rides for Health" only for 'State Home Care' clients for health appointments; application required.
2. FRTA: "Demand Response" needs 48-hr. notice; includes Wednesday trips to Shelburne Falls, Tuesday trips to Big Y; application required.
3. FRTA: "Access Program" with pick-up/drop-off at SF Arms Academy or Charlemont Park&Ride; application needed.
4. FRTA: "Medical Rides" only delivers to medical appointments outside of Franklin County and inside Massachusetts. When COVID situation clears, it will include out-of-state. No application needed.

Details are provided in the accompanying flyer. Cathy will draft a flyer with details and key contact information to be available in the Sawyer Hall lobby, library, and 18 Jacobs Road. Margaret will check with Hilma for rack availability and town signage.

**Volunteer Polling:** Six questions were identified for initial requests for volunteer interest:

- Setting up for events
- Help during event
- Clean-up after event
- Making phone calls to announce events for those without internet
- Cooking for events, with pick-up provided if needed
- Transportation training and certification cannot be sponsored through COA but is offered through LifePath and FRTA (Cathy to find out whom to contact)

Contacting volunteers to be divided up among COA members. Cathy to prepare list for the next meeting on April 7.

**Formula Grant:** Victoria will complete application for the March 28 deadline. Amount is \$6,000 prorated on basis of what is left in account. Victoria to determine if expenditure is by the end of the fiscal year or by date of application. Current balance is estimated at \$3,500. Victoria is meeting with LifePath and Eileen Lively April 12/13 to review Foot Clinic program, after which further expenditures can be determined.

**Senior Art Group:** Eileen Lively has enquired whether the group can use Room 135, starting Monday April 18. Discussion included the need for the Select Board to determine assignment of room to intergenerational/drop-in activities. The room also needs to be emptied of furniture. COA members agreed to meet in Room 135 at noon next Tuesday, March 22, to identify furniture that could be left for future use. Margaret reminded members that we had agreed to work on a blueprint plan for room usage.

**Tech Day at 18 JR:** Six Wellesley students will be on hand Monday, March 21 to assist with computer usage in two time periods: 1-2:15 and 2:15-3:30 p.m. for a total of twelve slots. Cathy will contact people requesting computer assistance in their survey responses, and email other seniors on the list Margaret provided. Tablet, laptop, or smart phones should be brought, and people should phone Victoria to sign-up.

**COVID:** With another virus circulating, caution is still required.

**Community Café:** Discussion postponed to next meeting with possible schedule in early May. Jean and Connie Frenette have offered to sing. Margaret will give Cathy their CD to check.

M/S/P Margaret, Cathy, unanimous: to adjourn at 3:35 p.m.