

**Council on Aging
Cafeteria Meeting, 18 Jacobs Road
Minutes Thursday, April 7, 2022**

Present: Victoria Burrington, Margaret Freeman, Donna Hyytinen, Cathy Tallen. 3:00 p.m. Sue Lively

Meeting called to order at 2:05 p.m.

Added to the agenda: Activity Planning; Senior Program Coordinator

M/S/P Cathy, Donna, unanimous: to approve the 03-17-2022 minutes as amended.

M/S/P Margaret, Cathy, unanimous: to move Room 135 to the end of the agenda.

Finances/Formula Grant: Changes to state requirements mean that 1) we have ten years without having to reapply, and 2) removal of pro-rating requirement. We will automatically receive \$6,000 per year, presuming no possible legislative adjustments. A meeting with the accountant confirmed that money is not being placed where it is supposed to go. The Foot Clinic Grant account is now estimated with a negative balance of \$300-\$400. Victoria will meet with Eileen Lively re May funding and with LifePath next week on a project review. Victoria has signed up for a webinar for finding funding grants.

Senior Communications: a multi-pronged procedure to develop an infrastructure, including 1) email, 2) volunteer phone calls, 3) Board of Health notifications, 4) town signs, 5) brochure distribution, 6) *Heath Herald* articles, 7) *The Recorder*. Victoria and Margaret will be responsible for (4), Margaret for (6), Victoria for (7).

Volunteer Polling: Cathy will divide the volunteer list among COA members for calling to ask willingness to 1) phone a set number of seniors with event information, and 2) help with a given event as needed.

Activity Planning: Margaret will contact the Board of Health to inform them of our plan to hold a monthly community café on Saturday mornings once COVID rules are relaxed. Cathy is meeting with a representative of Healthy Living Workshops as to whether they can provide in-person/zoom events in Heath, and will report back at the next meeting. For outdoor activities, Margaret will talk with the Library about joint events. Sue will contact committees about jointly arranging a Town Open House at 18 Jacobs Road for early/late September.

MCOA Conference May 4: Victoria asked members to check the event at mcoonline.com to see if any would want to go. Registration fees will be reimbursed.

Senior Program Coordinator: Sue noted that the Select Board cannot support COA funding beyond \$500 in the F23 budget. COA needs to make decisions for 1) use of formula grant, 2) outside support, or 3) take on the SPC work themselves. Discussion moved to the next meeting.

Room 135: Victoria distributed the floor plan for Room 135 for members to work on usage suggestions at the next meeting.

Further Business: Sue suggested that Stephanie Bird of Guardian Angels might agree to come talk ~~to senior~~ about their local concierge business helping seniors stay in place. Margaret will scan the article Sue provided and put on Slack for discussion at the next meeting.

M/S/P Sue, Cathy, unanimous: to adjourn at 3:58 p.m.