

Council on Aging
Room 135, 18 Jacobs Road Municipal Building
Minutes Thursday, May 16, 2024

Present: Victoria Burrington, Margaret Freeman, Donna Hyytinen, Lyra Johnson-Fuller, Sue Lively, Cathy Tallen.

Guest: Dena Briggs.

Meeting called to order at 1:30 p.m.

Review Agenda: moving of funds; ideas for aging in place.

M/S/P Cathy, Donna, unanimous: to approve the 04-18-2024 minutes as amended.

Follow-up Notes: Carol DeLorenzo is interested in the possibility of a massage program starting in winter. Date still needed for church concert. No-one showed up for the May 7 workshop: all data and forms for health and legal issues on the Life Path website; Victoria will check if it coincides with what she knows and suggested we get monthly workshops on the senior information radar. Finance accounting now resolved, with new accountant Ben on board. Still need for Senior Meal financing: ATM bake sale donations: \$544; \$3,000 in state grant.

M/S/P Margaret, Donna, unanimous: to move \$2,000 from state grant to the meals revolving account.

Age- and Dementia-Friendly Application: COA discussed and made minor changes to Dena's drafts. Dena and Cynthia Johnson were commended for the outstanding work done so far.

M/S/P Cathy, Donna, unanimous: to send letter and data to the Select Board for approval.

Margaret will forward them to Hilma today for Tuesday's Select Board meeting.

Date Change for May Senior Meal: Wednesday May 29. Change to be posted on Sawyer Hall sign.

Senior Program Coordinator Report:

- Poet's Seat Nursing Home has reached out for new jigsaw puzzles. It was agreed to trade the ones finished with them.
- Concern expressed over how COA can offer help to people in need. Hands Across Heath has \$7,600 for medical supplies not covered by insurance. Lyra will check with town nurse, and COA will keep alerted and check for future needs.
- Lyra attended a Life Path workshop for grant possibilities. She will apply for Title 3b for the foot clinic (reimbursement program; quarterly reports needed) and check other categories. The Church Street grant may be given to pay meal chef: request for \$250 for 11 months suggested. Wells grant should be announced in May.
- Scheduled workshops: Library author event May 19; Creative Play with Eileen Lively June 12; Beeswax Wrap July 10; Needle Felting July 25 depending on Laurie Wheeler's schedule; Dementia workshop July 26; Bookbinding in August; Library exploring possible cooking class with Alice Johnson. A Young-in-Heart concert to be scheduled on a Sunday in late July.
- Foot Clinic still attracting new people. Secure financing still needed. Difficulties with scheduling: Lyra will talk with Simonne on ideas for adjusting work times.

Cathy expressed concern for helping the homebound. Life Path to help with information and possible grants: the Shelburne Center may help pay for medical alert buttons. COA needs to consider "Scope of Practice": what we can/cannot do.

Next meeting: Thursday June 20 at 1:30 p.m.

M/S/P Cathy, Sue, unanimous: to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m.