

COA Report for FY2021

The newly constituted Council on Aging met on July 28, 2021 to organize and develop our immediate goals, as follows:

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.

We decided to meet every other Thursday at 2:00 p.m. COVID requirements meant for much of the year we met via zoom, and that we should spend the time planning for future activities once the coronavirus situation allowed. We fulfilled our other goals as follows:

1. Created a job description for Senior Center Coordinator.
2. Worked with and explored Life Path and FRCOG programs that could benefit our seniors.
3. Provided funding for the Foot Clinic to cover extra expenses during COVID.
4. Explored grant opportunities (ongoing).
5. Requested that Room 135 at 18 Jacobs Road be made available to COA to operate as an intergenerational drop-in center (still under consideration by the Select Board) and held discussions with Library personnel and Board of Health to brainstorm joint activities.
6. Completed a survey of all Heath seniors and compiled list of preferred activities, volunteers, etc.
7. Discussed what COA can do while not having a Senior Program Coordinator in place, such as sponsoring a Walk-Safe program in the JR gym during the winter months and starting a Tai Chi program.

Our major concerns at this point are 1) how to find adequate funding to hire a much-needed Senior Program Coordinator to run senior programming, 2) how to communicate program and workshop offerings to those without internet connection, and 3) how to proceed under current COVID restrictions.

Respectfully submitted,



Margaret H. Freeman

Secretary, COA