

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Veteran's Memorial Building, Rm 19
900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054
MEETING NOTES FROM August 13, 2020 – ZOOM Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Bert called meeting to order at 9:04

The following persons were present:, COA Director Patty Kayo, Secretary Helen Daly, Becky Poynot, Brooks Corl, Chris McCaffrey, Bert Lannon, Elizabeth Derwin

Secretary's Report

Motion to accept Chris and Helen

Treasurer's Report

In the process of switching books over to new fiscal year.

HESSCO Report

- No permanent replacement for this position as yet. Patty meeting with HESSCO 2 times per month

Outreach Report:

- Becky will be on vacation until 8/26 in Texas – will need to quarantine for 2 weeks when she gets back
- Compared stats this year to 2019 showing 146 outreach this year as opposed to 112 in 2019 – including e-mails and letters
- Becky helped with Farm Stand vouchers through HESSCO which she delivered on home visits
- Offered free flowers from Trader Joe's along with puzzles – well received
- Will attend training for fuel assistance offered by SMOC – we are an intake site for the state.
- People not yet allowed in the center without sign up for special programs, i.e. podiatrist, who serviced 14 people, 1 person at a time.

Director's Report:

- Deferred to Old and New Business

Chairman's Report

- No Chairmen's report

Old Business

- Fitness Room is open 9am – 3pm, limited to 4 participants only
- 8/19 will begin outside Chair Yoga with Holly – chairs will be set 14 ft apart
- Ice cream social will be offered starting 8/24 through September from 11:30 to 12:30. Ice cream sandwiches will be passed out and limited to 10 people. Pre-registration is required
- Outdoor Bingo will; begin on 8/27 @12:30. Disposable cards will be provided. Limited to 9 participants only. Millis residents have priority.
- Beginning 8/27 bread and pastries will be offered to anyone in need every Thursday and will be handed out as a drive-thru VMB parking lot

New Business

- Unanimous approval of minutes from both the Special meetings on 7/20 and 7/30
- Patty advises that she has been investigating the use of ROBO calls to advertise special events being held at the COA. We already have access that we pay \$1K per year for but we can sign up to use the

COA tel number and COA address for an additional \$300 per year. She feels that this will be very useful now in the time of Covid. Board unanimously approved her asking the Friends to cover the cost of \$300 for one year

- Mailing List – Helen had volunteered to update our mailing list and with the help of Kathi Smith in the Town Clerk’s office it was updated removing those who have died and moved out of town. Our previous number sent was 1538 – now reduced by approx. 23
- Bills payable need to be signed – Bert, Elizabeth and Helen will meet Patty at ‘VMB this morning to sign
- Bert, Elizabeth, Chris and Helen will prepare Newsletter for mailing on Monday – they will bring to Chris’s house on Friday for her to take to Patty on Monday

Special Meeting of 7/30 discussion

- Patty summarized survey and sent info to Diane who will review with Wayne – she is waiting for a response from them
- Bert’s concern is we need to be open 8 hrs per day, 5 days per week – we need more staffing hours to accomplish this
- Patty says that we will need a Program Director in order to be able to accomplish all the offerings we would like to make. She feels that the realization of a new Center will probably be up to 7 years down the road, especially now with the Covid problems we’re dealing with
- Chris offered the process the Library went through in the years before they were funded – important to keep the process in the public view – she also noted that with the Covid problem it will probably not be a good idea to bring this forward at the November Town Meeting – perhaps best to wait until May
- Bert’s question is – Who decides to take it Town Meeting? The Permanent Building Committee?
- Chris asked have we – the COA Board- decided on a site?
- Helen noted that going back over what if’s will bring us nowhere – looking back over the years to St. Paul’s, the parking lot land at Clyde Brown and the Clyde Brown School itself making space for the Senior Center in their new building – opportunities that have passed us by – we must keep the need in the public eye and involve as many towns people in the decision making process so that they have a feeling of ownership in a new Senior Center.
- COA members were polled as to which site they would ideally like to see considered for the new Center – unanimous vote was for Cassidy Farm
- Elizabeth noted that she felt having everything located in or near VMB would be ideal she felt at this time it looks like Cassidy Farm is the best option. She also suggests that Patty link the proposed programs from the survey study be assigned to each room on the Cassidy Farm proposal to show that we would definitely have enough room to offer proposed programs and that we will indeed need more room.. Patty will do this and forward to Diane and Wayne. This idea met with unanimous approval by the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 10:20 AM

Next COA Board Meeting: THURSDAY September 10, 2020

9:00 AM– via ZOOM until further notice