

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Veteran's Memorial Building, Rm 19
900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054
MEETING NOTES FROM February 12, 2021 – ZOOM Meeting

CALL TO ORDER: Bert called meeting to order at 9:03

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

Secretary's Report

Motion to accept Chris – Second Elizabeth

Treasurer's Report

- Still working to get it up to date

HESSCO Report

- Elizabeth attended 2/10 HESSCO meeting – her notes attached
- HESSCO is looked at as just a meals on wheels program – there major focus is keeping seniors in their home as long as possible -they would like to have COA newsletters reflect how we as a community can help seniors remain in their homes by helping them with minor household tasks – such as taking their trash to the dump (Bert volunteered to do this), have high school students volunteer to shovel? Other tasks that may pose a problem to our seniors.
- Dedham has just built a new center – Elizabeth would be willing to contact them to see what formula they used to come up with the correct sq. footage needed for a new center going forward?
- Elizabeth will continue to fill in at this position until we can get a new committee member. Chris and Patty will follow up with Bonnie to see if she still has any interest.

Outreach Report:

- Becky has handled 250 duplicate services and 99 unduplicated – only 8 in person all the rest by phone due to Covid restrictions
- Had scheduled a coffee chat the first of January – still no one signed up
- Fuel assistance program currently has 8 signed up with 3 requests pending
- Becky will set up a Zoom meeting with Norfolk County Sheriff
- She will put add in Millis-Medway Newspaper
- Becky will not be available on 2/18 or 2/19
- She has been talking to Beth Murphy regarding an “Adopt a Grandparent” program for students to help with small chores such as shoveling as well as the “Pen Pal” program

Director's Report:

- Director defers to Helen as she requests that handicapped placards be made available for the COA vans. Bert agrees that parking without handicapped plates or placards makes it very difficult especially in the snow. He suggests that he and Patty set up a Zoom meeting with Mike to see if there is some way that the town can get either plates or placards.

Chairmen's Report

- No report

Old Business

- Patty has heard nothing back from either ABACUS or the PBC

- Helen asks for an update by year of the senior population compared to the rest of the town – we have years 2013-2017. Patty will report at next meeting.
- Virtual programs not doing too well although the painting class has 10 people signed up for the its first class. Bob will pick up the supplies and bring them to the Town Hall.
- Lions club did not respond to suggestions for help for seniors
- Newspaper labels – still unable to print the highlighted yellow figure to show those that have not donated to the Friends – new printer is waiting to be installed.
- Chris will be back to handle the newsletter next month.

New Business

- Vaccine clinic information: nurse has been hired by the Board of Health and they hope to begin shots sometime in March. Clinic will be held at the Clyde Brown School on Wednesdays and will be limited to Millis residents only.
- Bert suggests putting a note in the newsletter how Vets can get their vaccine through the VA – he will mail all pertinent info to Patty.
- Discussions regarding the budget staffing requested at the Selectboard meeting. Patty added an operations manager at 29.5 hours and an increase to Patty's hours to 35 hours. The Selectboard requested that 3 options be presented from modest to what we really need to operate a new Senior Center. Next step will be go before the FinCom in early March.

Meeting adjourned at 9:37 AM
Next COA Board Meeting: FRIDAY March 12, 2021
9:00 AM– via ZOOM until further notice