

**COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD**  
**REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES**  
**Veteran's Memorial Building, Rm 19**  
**900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054**  
**MEETING NOTES FROM April 9, 2021 – ZOOM Meeting**

CALL TO ORDER: Bert called meeting to order at 9:02

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

Secretary's Report

Motion to accept Chris – Second Elizabeth

Treasurer's Report

- Formula Grant received in the amount of \$17,508.00
- Everything in order at this time – driver wages are down due to Covid constraints

HESSCO Report

- Next meeting not held until next week – there are no new meeting notes to share at this time.
- Spending figures for January were 64K and for February 57K with 80% shown for Home Health Aides
- Staff seeking to unionize while HESSCO is dragging their feet on this – wage increase inevitable and will have an impact on how HESSCO services will be administered in the futures.

Outreach Report:

- Fuel Assistance has been extended until the end of May – SMOC is 2 months behind on reviewing applications – people are still applying.
- Book exchange was affected by the late Newsletter deliveries – 8 people did come and asked if we could do again – suggestions were to set a recurring date for the future, perhaps add the flowers (pending okay from BOH).
- Becky is looking at adding an electric fireplace and the removal of one bookcase and perhaps add more games to the book offering.
- Bingo will start up as soon as Town Hall is re-opened to the public. Poker was not very popular but we will try again, there is a consistent number of Cribbage players.
- Offering the photography contest – no appointments as yet – Madeline would like to offer the photos submitted on a Cable program,
- Walking Club has currently 3 people signed up.
- March had 330 duplicate services and 210 unduplicated.
- 56 Covid shots were given at the Senior Housing facility out of 100 offered.
- J&J one time shots will be offered to home-bound seniors as of Monday 4/12.

Director's Report:

- Patty heard back from Wayne of the PBC – working on using either Survey Monkey or focus groups – will review with the COA before this is offered,
- We have not heard back from Abacus regarding the Cassidy Farm plans – they are working on a big project and have not been able to respond to this request as yet.
- Thought made again that we must open discussion up to the Townspeople
- Thought made as to the role of PBC, Selectboard and the COA on the path forward?
- Chris notes that the new Center has fallen from the public's minds referring to last meeting's notes.

- Town Election to be held on 5/10 – more publicity for the Center needs to go out via Newspaper and on line.
- We are no longer using Dr. Cooper – Request sent to Dr. Curley, a new podiatrist who may be available to do in-home visits.

#### Chairmen's Report

- Bert questioned where we are on the Handicapped placard? Patty has put in a request to the Registry, Why can't we put Handicapped plates on the vehicles? Patty said she thought it would cost approx.. \$60.00?
- Bert noted that the Board of Health will begin to administer Covid vaccines to our homebound.

#### Old Business

#### New Business

- Elizabeth asked if it would be possible to change the COA meeting date back to Thursdays at 9AM – she has commitments on Fridays.

Motion made: To change meeting dates to Thursdays at 9am beginning 5/13 – voted unanimously.

- Cultural Arts award – we will hold an outdoor event with Rockin, Rolling 60's band at the end of June – date to be set
- Patty would like to offer a Covid volunteer luncheon for 25 people? She will contact a caterer (perhaps the Rome) – date to be set
- Helen asked about the Tax Write-off program – still on hold – Patty advised her to contact John Moore
- Replacement COA appliances will be ordered including 2 six burner stoves plus a freezer at a total cost of \$8500.00 which will be paid through the Formula Grant. Question regarding the cost of the new appliances
- Elizabeth asked where we stand regarding the increase staffing request? Patty and Bert will be meeting with the Select board on 4/12. If approved Patty asks that all COA Board members be present at the upcoming Town Meeting scheduled for 5/1 @ 2PM to support this request – she will provide "Talking Points" when available. This will cause an increase of \$48K to the COA dept. budget.

Meeting adjourned at 9:56 AM

**Next COA Board Meeting: Thursday May 13, 2021**  
**9:00 AM– via ZOOM until further notice**