

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Veteran's Memorial Building, Rm 19
2900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054
MEETING NOTES FROM October 14, 2021 – Meeting
REVISED ITEMS Highlighted

CALL TO ORDER: Bert called meeting to order at 9:00 AM

The following persons were present:, COA Director Patty Kayo, Helen Daly, Brooks Corl, Chris McCaffrey, Bert Lannon, Elizabeth Derwin, Bill Brown, Lisette Walter, Debbie Sand

Secretary's Report

Motion to accept unanimous

Treasurer's Report – presented – No discussion

HESSCO Report

- Revenue into HESSCO comes from: state contracts, donations, fund raising, grants and co-pays. Some of the money that comes from Elder Affairs is restricted and must be spent on care. Any that is not used is returned. From FY20 there is about 60K that HESSCO had to return. This is the result of not being able to get enough staff to spend the entire allotment.
- The union did take a vote to strike, but they don't have to use that option. They do have to give 10 days notice if they do strike and HESSCO has put together contingency plans and submitted them to the Office of Elder Affairs. Wages are the biggest issues remaining.

Outreach Report:

- Debbie Sand reports she had 52 unduplicated cases and met a total of 218 times
- Food stamps applicants need help filling out forms
- There is a problem getting pin for EBT cards which she is working on

Director's Report:

- Millis EMT propose to offer Sr safety program and offer Fire & Ice social highlighting different topics – will be posted on the Millis Public Forum they will offer a pizza party
- HESSCO is offering a Dietitian to present different topics every 3rd Thursday of each month – first offering will be 11/23 at 2 pm
- Trying to get younger seniors – a total of 46 people attended downsizing programs in October
- Debbie offering new programs, cookie decorating as a new way for folks to meet Debbie
- Patty checked Dr. Highlander's reviews from other towns. All reviews were poor. Other history speakers suggested by other COA's are Henry Quinlan, Paolo DiGregorio, and Anthony Sammarco.

Chairman's Report

- Closed Permanent Building Committee meeting discussed. Patty said that she made it clear at the meeting that she and her Board were not happy with the closed meeting at which time Patty said only programming was discussed. Main discussion focused around programming. Questions as to why the Perm Building Committee has changed the focus from SR Ctr to Community Ctr?
- Discussion around the Conservation Commission's offer to lease Cassidy Farm to Tangerini's for farming was approved for short term lease only.
- Who should the COA Board go to regarding the changed Feasibility Study from COA Center to Community Ctr? As the Permanent Building Committee reports to the Select Board it was

suggested that Patty send a letter to the Select Board to be put on an upcoming meeting agenda to address these questions. Elizabeth volunteered to draft this letter and send to Patty for submission.

Old Business

- New van will arrive for presentation on 10/21. Grant from State was received for 60K at Linsky's request. The balance of 5K will be paid by The Friends group. A dedication with Linsky in attendance will be held on the 21st.
- Linsky was also force behind getting the grant issued for the "COA FEASIBILITY STUDY"

New Business

- Thanksgiving luncheon will be again catered by Bosse's on 11/15 at 1pm and will be presented buffet style with the help of the Fire and Police officers as servers. Cost will be \$7.00 per person
- Beth Murphy will present HIPPA, Power of Attorney Proxy instructions on 11/9 at 2pm at a cost of \$10.00 per person (Friends will pick up the balance of \$15.00 per person)
- Elizabeth questions if people really understand what's involved? Proposes that a discussion time be made available before the presentation – Patty will call Beth to discuss – concerned seniors don't fully understand all that's involved.
- Debbie offered that The File for Life should be carried at all times by seniors – Patty will call the Norfolk County Sheriff's office to do a presentation on the File for Life again to refresh people's minds,
- Bert addressed the Open Meeting Laws – OK to send out the Agenda and meeting notes – e-mail communications are not OK – Patty will ask either the Town Attorney or Jim McCaffrey to speak, discuss and clarify all aspects of the Open Meeting Law.
- Elizabeth will draft her letter to the Select Board for review at the 11/4 meeting and will distribute it via e-mail to all
- Patty will check with the Library re: Tower Hill passes and any other passes they have available so we can add this information to our Newsletter.
- COA events are posted weekly on Millis Public Forum and Millis COA Facebook pages.

Meeting adjourned at 10 AM

Next COA Board Meeting: THURSDAY November 4, 2021
9:00 AM– in RM 19 until further notice