

Senior Center Board Minutes - September 12, 2024

Present: David Collins, Wayne Wickland, Janice Wright (Ashfield); Ellen Eller, Janice Fleuriel, Joanne Soroka (Buckland); Suzanne E. Bishop, Sylvia Smith, Penny Spearance (Shelburne); Juli Moreno, Director. Absent: Nancy Brewer, Mary Mosley, Roy Rudolph.

Chair Janice Wright called the meeting to order at 3:01.

Sylvia Smith moved to accept the minutes of the July meeting with corrections; Penny Spearance seconded the motion, which passed with two abstentions.

Treasurer Sue Bishop reported that money left over from 2024 can be rolled over. She noted that the Caregiver Grant has been cut to \$5,800.

In her Director's report Juli Moreno said she completed monthly FRTA, RSVP and Caregiver grant reports, and the Hybrid Programming Grant is making progress. Laptops and Ipads were delivered. We will be zooming Bones & Balance to reach people who are physically unable to make it to the Senior Center. She has been working on the Community Vision project with schools and the Mary Lyon Foundation; Boston University's Collins Center continues to assist with data and IT issues; and a new teacher at Mohawk, Eric Holbrook, has volunteered to do home repairs for us, and his class may help with digital stuff. Colbeck

Juli said she want to have a Senior Center presence at town events such as A Summer Day on the Buckland Common, Shelburne's Music on the Porch series and Ashfield's Fall Festival. She asked the COAs to try to identify specific issues in each town, to meet with one another regularly and, ideally, with her and/or Teddy Doucette so we can keep our selectboards up to date on town seniors. She also said the Center's Facebook page can be shared with Lifepath and the COAs—"part calendar announcements, part marketing."

Per Programming Coordinator Dot Lyman, two "Meals to Go" in June served 55 and 56 people respectively, and more than a dozen seniors participate in each regular Foot Clinic. The Center now offers a basket weaving class; 9-13 people come to the twice monthly Peer Group "Never Alone" gatherings; and a Veteran's Agent will be at the Center every fourth Wednesday of the month. Outreach Coordinator Teddy Doucette helped 54 unduplicated individuals and provided 20 calls or home visits to at-risk or isolated seniors. Transportation Coordinator Bob Szafran reported that his department gave 63 Med rides, 99 shopping trips and 34 other rides.

Board of Managers Chair Sylvia Smith provided printouts of the draft Transition Plan, with which all three selectboards are "comfortable." Our board will vote on it at our October meeting. If approved, the plan will be effective on 6/30/25. As of July 1, 2025 and we will officially be a District. Wayne Wickland asked that board members have a copy of the bylaws ahead of time.

Janice Wright reported that the Ashfield COA will be hosting a Green Burial Specialist at their October lunch meeting. Shelburne and Buckland will host a joint Game Night with soup.

Old Business: Juli said the Center will have a Death Café on October 21 so "healthy people can get together and talk about what they don't want to talk about."

Wayne moved to adjourn the meeting; David Collins seconded the motion.

The meeting adjourned at 4:05 p.m. Next meeting: Thursday, Oct. 10, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Eller

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