

SENIOR CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – OCT. 12, 2023

Present: Doug Field, David Collins, Franklin Wickland (Ashfield); Ellen Eller, Janice Fleuriel, Joanne Soroka (Buckland); Suzanne E. Bishop, Nancy E. Brewer, Sylvia Smith (Shelburne); Director Juli Moreno.

Chair Nancy Brewer called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. and welcomed David Collins, Ashfield's new COA member.

Suzanne Bishop moved to accept the September 2023 minutes with corrections; Wayne Wickland seconded the motion, which carried with three abstentions.

In her Treasurer's report, Sue said FY2023 has been finalized by the towns. She mentioned that the Center needs to buy office supplies.

Director Juli Moreno reported that the site passed its boiler/furnace and building inspections. Her printout noted that Caregiver and Home Repair grants were renewed—a total of \$10,345 until September 2024. She applied for a \$10,000 digital hybrid grant that will mean fewer devices, more classes, and would support a U-Tube Web page covering Adventure Club events (e.g. Ashfield's Corn Hole Tournament) as well as a regular podcast and, eventually, Tele-health. Nancy Brewer requested Zoom codes for our board meetings.

Juli reported that Outreach Coordinator Teddy Doucette has completed all-day SHINE trainings and is shadowing Leanne Dowd throughout open enrollment. Activities Coordinator Dot Lyman reported that September's "To-Go Meals" served 46 and 56 people respectively. Classes such as Tai Chi for Arthritis remain popular as are weekly Bingo and Knitting groups; Men's Night held a Silver Screen Design Tour. Transportation Coordinator Bob Szafran reported his team provided 72 medical transports, 82 shopping trips and 35 other rides.

Discussion followed about Secretary Chen's upcoming visit, and where the District, as a model for the state, fits into the EOE priorities.

Sylvia Smith reported that she was appointed to the Board of Managers for Shelburne and there was discussion about the BOM's role.

Doug Field said that he and his wife will be preparing turkeys for Ashfield's Thanksgiving Dinner and that Christmas dinner may be pizza, with entertainment by Steve and Tom.

Sylvia said the Shelburne Conversation Café on Elder Law drew 38 people. Janice Fleuriel announced that Buckland is hosting a Conversation Café about Spending Grant Money on Ourselves on November 7.

In her Senior Center Foundation report, Nancy Brewer said the SCF plans to have a Fall Appeal only. They have a balance of \$276,240.20 as of September 30.

Juli asked the Board's permission to set up a special pain-relief program about medicinal CBD oils and remedies. No vote was taken but the board approved the idea.

Ellen Eller made a motion that as we transition from Consortium to District, this board continues to meet, work together and be recognized, if not as a Board of Directors, as a multi-town COA Board. Janice Fleuriel seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 4:10 p.m. Next meeting: Thursday, November 9, at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Eller

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Approved 11/8/23