

SENIOR CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – NOV. 9, 2023

*Present: Doug Field, Mary Mosley, Janice Wright (Ashfield); Ellen Eller, 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.

Sylvia Smith moved to accept the October 2023 minutes as written; Joanne Soroka seconded the motion, which carried with one abstention.

In her Treasurer's report, Suzanne Bishop said FY24 is on target. The line item for oil is higher, we spent \$388 for a defibrillator battery (and tax), and one family paid for Thanksgiving meals. We received \$650 for the gift fund in addition to \$10,000 from the SCF. The furnace needs repairs; it is not being replaced. Also the lease on this building comes up in June. Juli suggested we have negotiators meet in March to plan for an April meeting with the Masons.

In her Director's report Juli said she'd completed an \$8000 MCOA grant for Caregiver Respite and was waiting for results of an EOEAH hybrid grant. The Center had a table to promote services and look for home repair volunteers at Mohawk's Family Resource Fair. Various committees, libraries and some local businesses are now in our network, sharing items for newsletters and postings.

Juli said Outreach Coordinator Teddy Doucette will no longer do SHINE counseling, nor will Leanne Dowd be available for SHINE after this year's open enrollment. Weekly Lifepath lunches average 10-12 per meal; the Center served 52 people at one To-Go meal and 55 at the other. Transportation provided 72 Med rides, 90 Shopping trips and 54 other rides.

Sylvia Smith discussed Secretary Chen's visit and how the Secretary got an earful from Knitting Group regulars as did reps from Sen. Paul Mark's office and Rep. Natalie Blais' staff.

Janice Wright has resigned from the Board of Managers but will remain on the COA. Discussion followed about Ashfield politics, including suggestions about how to convince the Select Board of a BOM's importance. It was mentioned that we need a clear explanation of the Board of Managers duties, which led to the idea of revising the recruitment postcard and sending it out again. The board members agreed although no vote was taken. Ellen Eller volunteered to work on the re-write.

Doug Field reported 28 people attended Ashfield's Thanksgiving dinner. He said they'd be having pizza for Christmas with entertainment by Steve and Tom.

The Buckland COA's Conversation Café was sparsely attended but Joanne Soroka's butternut squash soup and Janice Fleuriel's sourdough dinner rolls, and presentations by speakers Juli Moreno, Rachel Stoler and Meg Ryan, *did* spark conversation.

Shelburne's COA is preparing a Baking themed Holiday Basket and Buckland's COA basket will be called "Baby It's Cold Outside."

Nancy Brewer's Senior Center Foundation report announced \$269,563.94 in total assets. They will be utilizing a FRCOG consultant, and Margaret Payne plans to visit a donor a week. If there's any money left it will go into the Capital Fund towards a new building.

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 p.m. Next meeting: Thursday, December 14, at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ellen Eller

*Ellen Eller*

*Approved 12/14/23*