

SENIOR CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – MARCH 14, 2024

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

Vice Chair Janice Wright called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

Suzanne Bishop moved to accept the minutes of the February 2024 meeting as corrected. Doug Field seconded the motion, which carried with one abstention.

Treasurer Sue Bishop reported that salaries are on target; reimbursement from FRTA will be coming from them. She said the Gift Fund contains \$19,800.

Director Juli Moreno said the budget is done for all three towns. She has asked to meet with the Masons regarding shared expenses but they have not yet responded. Highlights of her report: a request that, if possible, a COA member replace her at the monthly Lifepath Advisory Council meetings. She said she will be visiting local businesses and organizations in search of new partners via the "100 Cups of Coffee" program Kathy Buntin used a few years ago.

Juli said Outreach Coordinator Teddy Doucette will be in the field to meet with people, spending the first Thursday of the month in Ashfield and the second Thursday in Buckland. Activities Coordinator Dot Lyman reported 10-12 people play BINGO every Thursday, 10-15 people show up for the Knitting group, and fitness classes such as Dance Aerobics, Healthy Bones & Balance and Tai Chi are thriving. Transportation Coordinator Bob Szafran reported that his team logged in 2400 miles in the form of 66 Med Rides, 82 Shopping Trips and 18 others.

Sylvia Smith reported that the Board of Managers (BOM)—though still awaiting a sixth member when Regina Purinton is officially appointed—is making progress, dividing up some responsibilities. Janice Fleuriel reported on their last meeting, which included questions about topics such as insurance. Sylvia read a draft of the Managers' 2025 State Budget Request, excerpted in these minutes: "...that not less than \$100,000 shall be expended for the Senior Center Consortium and subsequent West County Senior Services District...for costs relative to the transition from the "Consortium" to the "District"...for continued project research and design of the renovation, expansion or new construction of the Senior Center...."

Managers

The Board voted unanimously to approve the request for Sylvia to submit.

Doug Field reported that the Ashfield COA had a woman who spoke about funerals at their last meeting, which prompted discussion about topics for future three-town Conversation Cafes, among them: Green Burial, Death Cafes, Death Dulas and Alternative Options.

The Game Night was very successful, with 18 people from the three towns—among them new faces—enjoying soup and snacks, and games like scrabble, cribbage and BINGO.

Discussion followed about possible dates for an Ice Cream Social with music at Mary Lyon Church and it was decided that the week of May 13 would be best. Ellen Eller will contact Paul Willis re: best day for the Church; Penny Spearance will contact Small Change.

There was no Senior Center Foundation report.

Penny moved to adjourn the meeting; Sue Bishop seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:18. Next meeting Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 3 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Eller

*Janice Fleuriel
4/11/2024*