

SENIOR CENTER BOARD MINUTES – JUNE 9, 2022

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

Chair Doug Field called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

Suzanne Bishop moved to accept the May minutes with corrections; Nancy Brewer seconded the motion, which passed with one abstention.

Treasurer Sue Bishop said expenses were normal although oil and gas were higher than budgeted. We used up 100% of the staff training allotment; Formula Grants from all three towns have been received and deposited. Shelburne and Ashfield have paid their assessments; Buckland still owes its portion, \$34,319.

In her Director's report Juli Moreno said that starting in July she will be tracking community connections. We will collaborate with Arms Library to start "A Novel Idea," a book club for people to discuss whatever they're reading rather than having assigned books. She said Outreach Coordinator Teddy Doucette will oversee the CISA, SNAP and Food-to-Table programs and he will be in Ashfield once a week. Juli also said LifePath announced that if we don't have more people at their lunches they will discontinue their meal program at the Center.

Expansion Committee Chair Sylvia Smith reported that Ashfield and Buckland voted in favor of the Senior Services District; Shelburne will vote at Town Meeting on June 11. Sylvia spoke to State Senator Adam Hines and Representative Natalie Blais and reported that with their support the District is likely to pass in both houses once the three town clerks each submit a copy of the agreement with town seals to the state. We may have legislation by the end of the year.

Doug Field reported that Ashfield will have a picnic at the lake on the first Thursday in July. There will be finger rolls and macaroni salad, and entertainment by the Ashfield Plain Players (???) string trio.

Penny Spearance reported that five people attended the Shelburne informational forum on May 31 and the COA members answered their questions about the district budget and staffing.

Discussion followed about the Aging and Dementia Friendly Initiative that has been proposed. Juli explained that towns can sign on and decide on ways to help seniors, even if it's just adding benches in the communities. There's no cost to the towns to join.

Nancy Brewer said that the Senior Center Foundation (SCF) board reported total assets of \$268,198.65. The spring appeal raised less than last year. They will elect officers at their July 14 meeting. They also discussed having a new Mission Statement—which raised questions among some of our board members because it's been our understanding that the SCF was established principally to raise money for our Senior Center.

Juli mentioned that she is looking for old rugs for a Center project. There was no other new or old business.

The Board nominated officers for the next fiscal year. The nominations were as follows: Nancy Brewer for Chair; Janice Wright for Vice Chair; Suzanne Bishop for Treasurer; Joanne Soroka for Assistant Treasurer; Ellen Eller for Secretary.

The meeting adjourned at 3:43 p.m. Next meeting: July 14 at 3:00 p.m. at the Center.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Eller