

COA BOARD MEETING MINUTES

January 28, 2021 @ 2:00 P.M.

COA Members present: Chair, Marsha Stone, Janice Colbert, Marsha Staples-Love, Peg Saulnier, Mary Williford, Pat Jordan, Karen McCormack, Linda Smith, and Ginger Carson. Adele Stevens was present via telephone.

Staff present: Hope Macary, Kathy Dunn and MaryAnn Socquet.

LifePath Representative: Michelle DeLisio

GUESTS: None

Chair, Marsha Stone called the meeting to order at 2:07 p.m. She requested everyone login prior to 2:00 meeting so we can avoid any delays in the start of the meeting.

Correspondence: Peg Saulnier, Secretary read two Thank You letters. One sent to Walker Funeral Home thanking them for the beautiful Holiday Wreath from Hope Macary on behalf of the Senior Center; the second was a note received from Sally Ahearn indicating how appreciative she is of the online Stretch & Tone classes on YouTube which she participates at least 3 times a week. She continues to give a donation monthly as she knows the Senior Center still has expenses.

Secretary: The minutes of the November 19, 2020 board meeting were distributed to board members via email by MaryAnn Socquet. Chair, Marsha Stone took a vote to accept both the October 22, 2020 and November 19, 2020 minutes since we did not have a quorum in November.

Executive Committee Report: Chair, Marshal Stone gave a brief highlight of the meeting, allowing Director Hope Macary to give the full report.

Staff Report:

Director: Hope Macary

- Welcome back everyone.
- Hope met with Mayor Wedegartner last Monday and the budget she presented was conservative, \$10,000 less than 2020. The State's budget in 2022 may not be in good shape and it's in our best interest to tighten up now. The Formula Grant is estimated to be \$9 per elder instead of \$12. Which would bring our funds down from \$49,000 to \$40,000? The Mayor still has to present the budget to the Council for approval.
- Instead of hiring a fourth staff member the current staff is willing to step up to the plate and work harder.
- Interviews for the Food Service Coordinator will take place hopefully in February.
- Covid Vaccines for 75 and older. Appointments will be available to make starting Wednesday 1/27/2021 online at CVS. You can also go to Mass.gov and click on the star on the map in our area.

The Senior Center will be holding a clinic at some point. There are 39,000 residents in Franklin County who will need vaccines. There was brief discussions on vaccines as to how, when & where to get them. Hope indicated to the Board they should feel free to call the staff with any questions.

Activities Director: Kathy Dunn

- The Jingle Bell Grab n Go served 80 members in December, 2020.
- Holiday Craft kits were handed out to members of the Memory Café.
- Protein Boxes have been distributed to 100 households. There is 1 more box to be distributed; however, there is no date at this time.
- The January 14th Healthy Brain & Body virtual workshop only had 4 members sign up, however only 1 attended.
- The February 10th Valentine Treat Grab n Go is in the February newsletter which has been mailed to 200 members and is online too.
- Kathy Steinem and Emma Marscher are recording fitness classes for YouTube.
- Liberty Tax will still offer free tax returns for qualified seniors. Registration will be through the Senior Center; however, they will meet with seniors at their Federal Street location.
- Spring & Summer planning is difficult at this point so we will go with the flow. There are no trips planned for 2021. We are still working in connection with the Medical Reserve Corp., Center for Self-Reliance, the Salvation Army, Liberty Tax and LifePath as community partnerships.
- We continue to work on programs for online participation.

LifePath: Michelle DeLisio

- Michelle reported that LifePath has been surveying their staff asking for volunteers to drive elders and disabled persons to vaccine sites and how they can help.
- Hope Macary Thanked LifePath for all their work during this time and how they work to navigate ways to get information and help to seniors.

Miscellaneous:

- Board members were reminded to complete the Conflict of Interest forms, sign and drop them off at the Senior Center for Mary Ann Socquet.
- Marsha Staples-Love indicated with the quick closings and openings of the Senior Center in 2020 and will most likely continue into 2021 it is hard for the membership to keep up with it. She suggested that it would be very helpful if at least the Board Members be sent an email when these closings and openings are taking place. As Board Members we would at least be in the know should anyone contact us. Everyone thought it was a great idea and that Mary Ann Socquet could send out a notice to the Board Members

Old Business: None

New Business: None

Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 3:54 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Peg Saulnier, COA Secretary

Next meetings: Exec Meeting: February 18, 2021 @ 2:00;

Board Meeting: February 25, 2021 @ 2:00 via WebEx