

TOPSFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 8, 4:00 PM

TOPSFIELD TOWN HALL, 8 WEST COMMON STREET

2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM

PRESENT: Penny Rogers, Ruth Lucy, Lynne Bermudez, Hannah Adelman-Menzer, Elaine Crippen, Florence Brady, Paula Burke, Joan Chiffer, Kimberly Love

OTHERS: None

I. VOTE ON APPROVAL OF THE SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Motion made and seconded to approve the July Board Minutes, as amended, 8 Ayes and 0 Nays

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

-COA Board Training session with Emmett Schmarsow, Office of Elder Affairs, on Tuesday, October 8th, 9 AM, Town Hall. Attendees included those from Arlington, Hamilton, North Reading, Reading, Rockport and Topsfield. Out-of-town attendees were impressed with what Topsfield has to offer seniors and with the space available. Emmett said that from 2020-2030, there will be a 20% increase of seniors. There needs to be a plan to match people with resources. Penny Rogers stated the training talked about what vision is for seniors in the community. Hannah Adelman-Menzer had no idea what to expect at board training by Emmett. She felt lucky to be in Topsfield where elders were well taken care of; Kim Love stated contact, via e-mails with out-of-town attendees, and Emmett, would enable a sharing of ideas. Possible additional group meetings should be considered.

-Insider's Tour of Topsfield Fair worked out great. Emmett and some of the attendees at the board training came on the tour. Photo was taken with Mrs. Essex County.

-New Education Building, former 4H Building, was purchased last year. Essex Agricultural Society always owned land. This is where Dance Out Dementia Team performed.

-Middleton Golf Course property (Route 114) will be location of new Middleton Town Hall and other town facilities; long term plan is to create a campus.

- Octoberfest, October 24th. Sing -Along Dinner music by Steve Walsh (Meals on Wheel volunteer) and his brother-in-law. Before dinner Board of Health will sponsor flu clinic (1-4); town makes \$20 for each shot; Public Safety Team/TRIAD (4-5), "Winter Readiness 101".

"Holiday on the Green", December 7th, 3-7 PM. There will be a business walk, food trucks at Library, Dance Out Dementia Team performs at 3 PM at town hall, hay rides, artisan village, COA and Friends will, once again, offer Santa's Workshop at the karate studio.

-COA Holiday Dinner. December 12th at 4:30 PM. TRIAD and VNA Nurse to sponsor a Stroke Prevention Information Session at 3:30 PM.

III. REPORTS:

1. FRIENDS LIAISON

Meeting October 12, 10:15 AM

According to COA Rep. Elaine Crippen

-Cost of installation of cabinets in breakroom \$800, not \$500, because of number of units. Asked how many cabinets were installed.

-Friends will be funding and serving at the COA Octoberfest, October 24th.

-Friends of Topsfield COA fundraiser Texas Roadhouse, 3-10 pm, October 17th.

2. DEMENTIA-FRIENDLY TEAM:

According to DF Chairperson Joan Chiffer:

-dementia friendly training tops over 4,000 trained in the state largely because of Topsfield. The recent training completed in preparation for the 2019 Topsfield Fair put the Commonwealth over the 4000 mark.

-possibly pursuing selectmen for Age Friendly Designation. AARP 8 pillars. Meeting on working on each pillar. James Fuccione, Senior Director, Mass Healthy Aging Collaborative, stated businesses and churches spend more on Age Friendly.

-Dance Out Dementia will open "Holiday on the Green", December 7th.

3. INTERGENERATIONAL

According to IG Liaison Hannah Adelman-Menzer:

-reported on salsa making party that took place in September; modifications would be recommended for next year.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

-Topsfield COA Transportation Service Policy still in the process of updating. Suggestions made.

NEW BUSINESS:

1.-Transportation for 50 to Casino on 10/29 will be provided by Supreme Transportation, Middleton, MA; they have 1 small, 2 bigger buses and may be a viable back-up plan in case the Topsfield COA Bus is out of commission.

2.-We have, once again, been awarded a Title III grant, in the amount of approximately \$2900 ; Topsfield has been qualifying for supplementary transportation funds because of lack of public transportation options in town.

3.-Donation of \$100 was made by Institution for Savings as part of Giving for Good Program. Used for covering most of cost of Royal Luncheon.

V. OTHER:

-Lynne Bermudez shared that Topsfield is close to achieving the state's goal of each town having 10% of its housing be "affordable". Topsfield's current level is 8.67%.

Motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting at 5:08 PM. Ayes: 8; Nays: 0.

Next meeting: Tuesday, 11/12/19 at 4:00 PM in the 2nd Floor Conference Room/Activity Room in the Topsfield Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Florence Brady, Recording Secretary/Clerk

