

TOPSFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

February 8, 2022, 4:00 PM

TOPSFIELD TOWN HALL, 8 WEST COMMON STREET

PRESENT: Chair Penny Rogers, Lynne Bermudez (Vice Chair), and members Elaine Crippen, George Berube, Kendra Berube, Kim Love, Stephen Walsh, Hannah Adelman-Menzer, Joan Chiffer and Bill Quinn Jr.

OTHERS: COA Director Kathleen Barbarisi and Charlotte O'Toole (Associate Member)

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Elaine Crippen made a motion to approve the minutes of January 11, 2022. It was seconded by Hannah Adelman-Menzer and the motion carried 10-0.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Newsletters for March and April will be put to print early.
- Completed State Annual Report.
- New Audiobook library will be located in the conference room and will be advertised in the newsletter.
- Locally sourced food will be talked about in the newsletter and will be called, "Living Life Locally."
- There are 51 people that receive Meals on Wheels. There have been a lot of phone calls regarding new requests.
- AARP appointments will be starting on Thursday, March 17th.
- Trip to the Ipswich Inn had 10 people that attended.
- Trip to the Tea Leaf in Waltham had 10 people that attended.
- COA was in need of a digital camera and Susan Whelton of Friends graciously donated one!
- Stephanie Sweeney has been a great addition to the COA team and is currently working on cleaning up the Topsfield COA website.

III. REPORTS:

1. FRIENDS LIAISON:

According to COA Liaison Elaine Crippen:

- Currently looking for new members, please contact Kathy Yanchus for more information.
- Problems with postage already spent \$1,200 on postage.

2. COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS (Dementia-Friendly Team, Intergenerational, Craft Connections):

According to Dementia Friendly Liaison Joan Chiffer:

-We have 2 new videos that have been put up on the Topsfield Dementia Friendly website. The first video is called, "Inside Dementia Minds" The video highlights several individuals who are living with a dementia diagnosis as they talk about what it feels like. The second video is called "Forget Me Not", a video recording by Garrett Davis.

- "Supper Club" has been going well and has a small dedicated group of about 7-8 people.

According to Intergenerational Liaison Hannah Adelman-Menzer:

- Steward and Proctor School will be making Valentine's Day cards to homebound seniors receiving Meals on Wheels.

Craft Connections Liaison Kendra Berube:

-There will be a card making class on February 24th. The last class had a great group of 9 attendees in person. People love it!

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

-COA Transportation Update: Lift on bus works well, can be used for people with mobility issues. Currently shopping purchases are stored in the back of the bus, which would prevent use of the lift.

-Kathleen Barbarisi is still working on the transportation Policy.

-A capital request has been given to the Town Administrator for a new transportation van by 2025.

-Working on Annual Reports.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

-None at this time.

VI. OTHER:

-Maybe create a census form that helps us find out the numbers of seniors there are in our community to help us determine their needs. Spreading the word about COA resources is so vital. Maybe put in the next newsletter the benefits of the COA bus and the different destinations.

Motion made by Joan Chiffer to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Hannah Adelman-Menzer and carried 10 ayes 0 nays at 4:55 P.M.

-Next Meeting will be March 8, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Love, Recording Secretary/Clerk

DOCUMENTS

Draft minutes for February 8, 2022.