

TOPSFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

April 12, 2022, 4:00 PM

TOPSFIELD TOWN HALL, 8 WEST COMMON STREET

PRESENT: Chair Penny Rogers, Vice Chair Lynne Bermudez and members Elaine Crippen, George Berube, Kendra Berube, Kim Love, Stephen Walsh, Joan Chiffer, Florence Brady and Bill Quinn Jr.

OTHERS: COA Director Kathleen Barbarisi

I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Joan Chiffer made a motion to approve the minutes of April 12, 2022. It was seconded by Florence Brady and the motion carried 10-0.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Attendance for events has been great. Watercolor class with Bill Duke had 10 attendees, White Pack Cards with Kendra had 9 attendees, Glenn Miller Orchestra had 19 attendees, Flowers with Tom had 20 attendees and Crowes Pasture had 34 attendees!
- There will be an Easter egg hunt throughout the downtown and in the Town Hall. COA volunteers are assisting.
- Issues continue with parking in the Town Hall lot. A senior visiting the Town Hall COA was unable to find a parking space, which seems to be an ongoing problem. It was suggested that maybe there be a designated sign or two that state, "COA Reserved Parking."
- There are around 50 Meals on Wheels customers that receive meals Monday-Friday. There are 3 recipients that accept library books as well.
- There will be no Grab and Go in May.
- The Senior Tax Work-Off program has had several seniors working throughout Topsfield in the library, the police department, fire department and the COA.
- June is Elder Abuse Awareness Month. On June 30th, there will be a Clyde Wheatley Concert and speaker for Elder Abuse Awareness Month.

III. REPORTS:

1. FRIENDS LIAISON:

According to COA Liaison Elaine Crippen:

- There will be a membership drive recruiting for new members.
- Traveling Chef will be coming once a month.
- There are 3 new people interested in attending the April meeting with the COA.

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

According to Dementia Friendly Liaison Joan Chiffer:

·Digital guides are now up on the website and in the newsletter. There are helpful resources on how to access and read digital newspapers.

According to Intergenerational Liaison Hannah Adelman-Menzer:

·Still passing the journals back and forth with seniors and preschoolers, going well.

Craft Connections Liaison Kendra Berube:

·Card making has been happening every month and has been getting great attendance. People love it!

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

·Formula Grant: It was changed to a 10year contract. It can be a “rolling account” that will roll from year to year rather than scrambling to spend it all ASAP. Going forward it will be based upon the census and how many seniors we have. It will be on the website soon.

·The COA will not try to get a liquor license for special events due to liability.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

·COA Board members are now considered ‘Special Municipal Employees’ a state designation.

From this designation, the COA Board voted on a disclosure form for COA Board Member Joan Chiffer to be a paid Yoga Teacher for the COA. KIM Love, made the motion to pass this vote and Elaine Crippen seconded it. It carried 8-0, 2 abstained, 1 absent.

VI. OTHER:

·Pickleball is back on the agenda and the Proctor School field is a possible site. The COA has done research on this and what is involved in the past and this will be passed on to Stephanie Sweeney, Recreation Director.

Motion made by George Berube to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Joan Chiffer and carried 10 ayes 0 nays at 4:41 P.M.

-Next Meeting will be May 10, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Love, Recording Secretary/Clerk

DOCUMENTS

Draft minutes for April 12, 2022.