

TOPSFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
May 10, 2022, 4:00 PM
TOPSFIELD TOWN HALL, 8 WEST COMMON STREET

PRESENT: Chair Penny Rogers, Lynne Bermudez (Vice Chair), and members Elaine Crippen, Hannah Adelman-Menzer, Stephen Walsh. Bill Quinn, Jr. and Florence Brady

Others: COA Director Kathleen Barbarisi and Charlotte O'Toole (Associate Member), Friends of COA: Susan Whelton, Chris Roman, Mary Ann Cosgrove, Sandy Guido, Pat Machean, Nancy Beirne, Kathy Yanchus, Mary Margaret Keaney and Kathy Curran.

I. BOARD MINUTES:

Vote on minutes delayed until June meeting.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Parking signs have been placed in rear of town hall for those that can be used by school.
- Discussions are being held with Kevin Harutunian, Stephanie Sweeney and Kathleen Barbarisi regarding having a monthly Farmer's Market this summer.
- Working on the July/August Newsletter.
- There were 8 people signed up for shopping day transportation.
- Discussion regarding having a "Crafts Swap". Items can be swapped between individuals, or if not swapped, items could be purchased.
- Stretch/Strength program for June has been cancelled. Possibility of getting Zumba Gold Instructor.
- Kathleen was asked to be on the board of the Top Cupboard food pantry.
- Starting June 27th, "Movie Mondays" from 4-6 P.M.
- Discussion re: Comfort Cooling Stations during summer months.
- The COA is looking for people to help out with the Memorial Day Parade.
- Kathleen will be on vacation June 13th and will return Monday, June 27th.
- Andover Museum had 11 people attend. Programs are blossoming.
- Mass COA are requiring masks again. Topsfield COA has done well re: masks recommended.
- Travelling Chef had 20 people sign up, need 25.
- Want to do more trips and exercise programs.

- Coffee & Conversation stopped for now. Not enough people involved. Sometimes, only one person in attendance. May need to concentrate on going and doing more things in the future.

III. REPORTS:

1 .Friends of COA:

-Membership letter sent out, but there was issue at the post office. Mailers (2700) sent out for mailing. They sat at the post office for over a week, before they were sent out. It is costly to send out the letters, and we are not sure if they are all were sent out, or if some were tossed. Many people did not receive.

-Exercise Group free, due to grant funds.

-Strawberry Festival will be held June 11th. Friends will be looking for basket donations. One donation has already been received from Alfalfa Winery.

-Hangers to display art in the COA area were provided by Friends of COA.

2. Friends Liaison:

COA Liaison Elaine Crippen:

-Friends of COA provided an update on their activities.

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

Dementia Friendly Liaison Joan Chiffer:

-Joan was not in attendance, but it was noted that Dementia Friendly recertification must be done.

Intergenerational Liaison Hannah Adelman-Menzer:

- Volunteer required for Intergenerational Garden. Due to COVID, support from the school in the last two years has not been good. Kathleen Barbarisi has volunteered. There is a possibility of incorporating garden into Farmer's Market.

Craft Connections Liaison Kendra Berube:

-Kendra was not in attendance. It was noted that the card workshop had between 15/20 people and are very much enjoyed by seniors. Penny thanked both Kendra and George for their work in putting the class together.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

-None at this time.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

-Questions and answers for and by COA Board and Friends. Question asked by Friends member re: transportation for trips. Do individuals need to come to the town hall? Answer was that if an individual wished to attend, individual can either be picked up at their home, or come to town hall.

VI. OTHER:

-Bill Quinn, Jr. attended informational meeting with architect Gregor to discuss possibility of installing a patio area at the rear side of town hall (near Proctor School). Some of discussion involved footage required for every person (10 feet), i.e. 25 people would require 250 sq. ft. Tent size would be 20x20. Stones, possibly memorial stones, could be donated. Discussion also included electricity requirements. Possibility of getting Topsfield Fair involved in the discussions. There is nothing to approach the fair with right now. Discussion of adding a patio is just in the "formulation of ideas" stage. Nothing is written in stone.

Motion made by Elaine Crippen to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Hannah Adelman-Menzer and carried 7 ayes 0 nays at 4:57 P.M.

-Next Meeting will be June 14, 2022.

Respectfully submitted by Florence Brady, Acting Recording Secretary/Clerk

DOCUMENTS

Draft minutes for April 12, 2022

Draft minutes for May 10, 2022