

TOPSFIELD COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
JULY 11, 2017 4:05 PM
NEW TOWN HALL, 461 BOSTON ST., TOPSFIELD, MA
MAIN CONFERENCE ROOM

MEMBERS PRESENT: Penny Rogers, Bill Quinn, Charlotte O'Toole, Annette Cohen, Elaine Crippen, Bette Cullinan, Martha Davis, Jolene Guerra, Ruth Lucy.

OTHERS: Kathy Faust, Liaison for the Friends of the Topsfield COA; Paula Burke, Director of the Topsfield COA.

I. APPROVAL OF THE JUNE BOARD MEETING MINUTES: Motion made and seconded to approve the minutes with the following correction: add Elaine Crippen's name to those members present. Motion approved: 9 ayes, 2 abstained.

II. DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

- Multigenerational dinner was a big success for the first of its kind held by the COA. Hopefully the speaker, Atty. Kimberly Kelly, will come again since may didn't hear with so much going on. Many large group dinners are being planned going forward: Octoberfest, Holiday Party, Valentine Dinner, St. Patrick's Dinner, etc. Numbers attending will be growing.
- The concert on the common, The Riverside Renaissance Swing Band, was a big success with thanks to Vince Guerra for obtaining a grant and publicizing it. Having the Woopie Wagon there was a nice addition. Need someone to sponsor/coodinate future community concerts.
- Some difficulty with getting the newsletter out on time with postal issues. Penny was able to facilitate needed changes to the bulk mailing procedure.
- The Scoop listings will have a few changes added: the Back to Campus outing will include the Enterprise Center as part of the tour and perhaps the new Salem State president.
- VNA will conduct Bone Density Clinics on two upcoming Thursdays in 15 min. slots. Need to sign up at the office for an appointment.
- TRIAD will sponsor another Car Fit on 7/24 with John Russell from the Essex Sheriff's Dept., to make sure that seniors fit safely and comfortably in their cars. Checks take about 20 min. and will be held at the Topsfield Fire Station. Appointments need to be scheduled through the COA office.
- Touring West Boxford was a fun day trip for those not familiar with Benson's, The Community Giving Tree and West Village Provisions.
- Another trip to see the Lowell Spinners is planned for 8/8. An evening schooner sail out of Gloucester is planned for late August.
- Vinny Mortellite is preparing more presentations for us about stars of the silver screen and a trip to see "All About Eve", with lunch, is scheduled for 8/24.
- Staffing for the COA office is stable and our former spring intern, Haley, will be returning to help with varied activities in a 6 mo. contract.
- The Logo that was designed through Masco's graphic arts program is almost final.

III. LIAISON REPORT:

- The Friends don't meet in the summer months.
- Some generous people added an extra donation to their membership dues when renewing.
- Will look into finding other incentives for becoming a "Friends" member besides a reduced fee for the Thursday lunches.

IV. OLD BUSINESS:

- Town Hall Update: The fencing has gone up around Town Hall.
- A resident of Topsfield recently requested copies of the past 2 yrs. of COA Board Minutes. All were scanned and are ready to go on the town website. All information by COA is public knowledge: emails, agendas, minutes, etc.
- Some negativity, occasionally directed against town seniors, is still showing up on socia media in blogs and posts.

V. NEW BUSINESS:

- An official vote was taken of the 2017-2018 COA Officers: The following slate of officers were nominated, seconded and re-elected: 9 Ayes, 2 Abstained.

Chairperson: Penny Rogers

Vice- Chair: Bill Quinn

Recording Secretary: Charlotte O'Toole

-The two new scanners, paid for in a Town Meeting vote, are now in operation to track the flow of seniors at various events. Paula, Peg, Vinny, Greg and Beth have all been trained in the use. Paula distributed fobs to Board members and demonstrated how easy it is to be scanned in to activities/meetings.

-COA will be celebrating it's 45th year of service to the town seniors in March, 2018. A history of the organization will be researched from articles in the archives and shared with all interested town residents. Staff will start planning events.

A motion was made and seconded and a vote take to adjourn the meeting at 5: 18 PM. 9 Ayes; 2 Abstained.

Next meeting is August 8, 2017 at 4:00 PM in the New Topsfield Town Hall.

Respectfully submitted by Charlotte O'Toole, Recording Secretary