

TOWN OF SUDBURY
COUNCIL ON AGING
MINUTES OF MEETING
Oct 23, 2023
3:30 PM

Present: Chair: Marilyn Tromer

Members Present: Jeff Levine, Anna Newberg, Paul Marotta, Don Sherman, Patricia Tabloski, and Carmine Gentile

Also Attending: Debra Galloway Director of Sr. Center

Guests via Video: none – in person only

Meeting called to order by Chair Marilyn Tromer at 3:35 PM

Attendance by all those members present confirmed by roll-call affirmation.

Call to Order

Minutes from July 10th approved with one correction. Correction: pg.2 Membership update-change to applicants instead of applications

Minutes of Sept 11 approved without correction

Director's Report

Meeting with Sandra Duran to get update on community center. Prediction open around Dec. 27 or 28. Heavy machinery is in the parking lot. Caution urged. Staff parking across the street.

Recruitment for instructors and program leaders continues. (crafts, fitness, computer instructors). Grant enhancing computer literacy for older adults was funded.

Staffing shortage on the Front Desk is still an issue. We continue to work to fill the vacancy.

We still need a substitute van driver.

Article 7 will be voted on this evening at Town Meeting to supply contingency funds for the Senior Center.

Transportation Committee Report

Over 200 people signed up for Uber and 200 for the Taxi programs. Outreach continues.

Ana Cristina is doing presentations at Longfellow Glen, Coolidge, Frost Farm and other centers in town. Review of service positive. Concerns include some not certain how program works. Debra & Ana Cristina have been reaching out.

We are still trying to gain funding for taxi shuttle to Boston Hospitals. Concern is length of time a person may be on the van by sharing pick-ups in other towns. Application due by Dec. 31.

Via Transportation provided a presentation to the Transportation Committee. They offer services that include coordination of dispatch, scheduling, transportation and pick-up.

Membership Sub Committee

One potential member was interviewed. A recommendation may be forthcoming. Item deferred to next meeting.

Special Event Subcommittee Report (Marotta)

Due to the later dates for the move to the new Community Center, Jan 23rd new date for Community Center opening. Flowers, food and music arrangements underway.

Liaison to other Town Committees

Bob: Transportation- deferred

Jeff: Friends of Sudbury Seniors. Piano purchased and arrangements continue.

Marilyn: Commission on Disability but it has some turnover so the liaison there is on hold.

Don: Goodnow Library – The goal is senior friendly activities. Nothing new to report.

Paul: Park & Rec - The goal is similar to Don's with the library, namely senior friendly activity.

Pat: Board of Health – Vaccination clinics requested for RSV and Covid booster. Town nurse investigating options.

Carmine: Sudbury Housing Authority and Sudbury Housing Trust (of which he is chair). The legislature approved tax benefits up to \$2 million for Estate tax. Maximum Circuit breaker also increased from \$750 to \$1500. Sr volunteer property tax deduction also increased. We are not sure when it takes effect. Will report at next meeting.

Jeff: Efforts continue to discuss shared space with Park & Rec. Town manager will arrange meeting to discuss probably after Town Meeting. Update at next meeting. AV equipment request put out to bid. Bid was high and new bids were requested.

Anna: Cultural Council offers grants to artists but there are no meetings to attend.

Marilyn: Requesting review of 5 Goals for COA at next meetings. Marilyn has requested that we review these goals before the next meeting.

Two focus groups set up for Housing Trust discussions. Marilyn and Carmine has signed up to attend one of these meetings. Report to follow.

Meeting adjourned at 4:41 PM.

Next meeting November 13, 2023 at 3:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Tabloski, COA Secretary