



Minutes of Town of West Newbury

Council on Aging Minutes

Tuesday, October 10, 2023 at 9:00 am

The Council on Aging met in person in the SAGE Center/Senior Center on October 10, 2023. Chair, Dianne Faulkner, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Present: Gail DiNaro, Dianne Faulkner, Jessa Haynes, Marjorie Peterson, Richard Preble, Joseph Publicover and Julie Ruscio

Staff: Christine Marshall, Director and Jen Vincent

Guest: Donna Publicover

Absent: Vicky Beaumier, Barbara Warne and Bob Veator

Secretary's Report: Dianne Faulkner called for Secretary's Report. Marjorie Peterson moved to accept the minutes of September 12, 2023. Jessa Haynes seconded the motion. Minutes approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: The Financial Report and Expenses were reviewed. Richard Preble moved to accept the Treasurer's Report. Marjorie Peterson seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

Director's Report: Christine reviewed and made note of various line items on the report; Pickleball has been very popular, Terrariums made at Atria in Newburyport was a lot of fun, Greeting Card Workshop was great. Dianne Faulkner moved to accept the Director's Report. Marjorie Peterson seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

New Business:

- a) **Review of Financial Report for end of FY23:** Christine reviewed Financial Report as of September 30, 2023. Christine spoke about Yoga Class participation and will have a conversation with the instructor about schedule and cost.
- b) **Review Food Pantry expenses for FY23:** Food pantry expenses reviewed for FY23. In FY23, Food Pantry expenses were over \$14,000 and donations were \$6,820. If we continue spending twice as much as our financial donations, the Food Pantry gift account balance will be very low a year from now.
- c) **Discuss / brainstorm ideas for Food Pantry in FY24:** There were discussions about the holiday baskets, food drives and writing an article for the newsletter. Christine and Marge will work on the article for the newsletter. Christine also informed the COA of a meeting with Our Neighbors Table and the possibility of receiving food from them thru the Greater Boston Food Bank. There was also a suggestion of having a food donation bin at the Food Mart and looking into donations from Fantini Bakery.

Old Business:

- a) **Update on Pickleball program:** Christine discussed the Pickleball program that ran in August and September. We started with 4 participants and ended the program with a group of 10. At the August Park and Rec Commission meeting, Christine asked to extend the program thru

September, which was approved. The Park and Rec Commission was also going to invite neighbors to the September meeting to hear any noise concerns. This item was not on their agenda. Christine will continue working with Park and Rec in hopes of starting back up in the spring.

b) **Update on Day Trips/Upcoming Events:** Christine discussed the following trips and events for November and December:

- North Shore Music Theatre, December 13, 2023, A Christmas Carol. Tickets are \$84.50 each. Jen will be making a holiday lunch and bus transportation will be provided.
- Festival of Trees in either Methuen or Salisbury
- Page School Concert and holiday lunch on December 7, 2023
- Friendsgiving lunch serving a turkey gobbler sandwich on November 8
- Greeting Card Workshop making Thanksgiving cards on November 9
- Sand pails will be delivered again this year with the help of DPW
- Jamie McKenzie, winter wellness
- Flu Shot Clinic on October 17 with other vaccines offered, including the RSV vaccine
- Drug Takeback Day at SAGE on October 11

Comments:

Dianne Faulker spoke of her recent trip to Martha's Vineyard, where she visited the Council on Aging. "The Greatest Sitcoms" was an event that they had which was so great. Dianne spoke of finding out about the cost of this event to come to West Newbury.

Christine was asked by Dianne Faulkner to put page numbers on future meeting packets for easier reference by the board.

Adjourn:

Dianne Faulkner moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:45 am. Gail DiNaro seconded the motion to adjourn. Voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Ruscio, Secretary

Meeting Documents:

- 1) Draft minutes of COA meeting on September 12, 2023
- 2) COA Financial Report - September, 2023
- 3) Food Pantry Expenses thru 9/30/23
- 4) Directors Report - September, 2023
- 5) COA Financial Report – June 30, 2023
- 6) Food Pantry Expenses – FY23