



## Minutes of Town of West Newbury

### Council on Aging Minutes

**Tuesday, February 14, 2023 at 9:00 am**

The Council on Aging met in person in the First Floor Hearing Room on February 14, 2023.

Chair: Jacqueline Johnston called the meeting to order at 9:02 am.

**Present:** Jacqueline Johnston, Richard Preble, Gail DiNaro, Dianne Faulkner, Dorothy Cavanaugh, Jessa Haynes, Marjorie Peterson

**Absent:** Laurie Spielvogel, Joseph Publicover, Vicky Beaumier, Barbara Warne

**Staff:** Christine Marshall

**Secretary's Report:** Dianne Faulkner moved to approve the minutes of January 10, 2023. Jacquie Johnston seconded the motion. Approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Financial Report and Expenses were reviewed. Christine noted the budget is on track. Christine noted the addition of Wage Study salary increases in the General Fund for informational purposes. These funds will not come out of the COA budget.

There was discussion of Friday yoga resuming, and the cost of this program. The yoga instructor's fee is higher than other exercise instructors. Christine will research the cost and availability of the yoga instructor currently holding the Library yoga class on Wednesdays.

The Select Board has declared the COA van as surplus, and the disposal/sale will be handled by Wayne Amaral, as the Chief Procurement Officer.

A motion to approve the Treasurer's Report was made by Gail DiNaro, seconded by Jessa Haynes. Approved unanimously.

**Director's Report:** The Director's Report was reviewed.

- MeVa Rides (formerly MVTA) are being used regularly and folks are happy with service.
- Foot Care with Valerie Horgan is on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month and is well attended.
- We have been spending down Food Pantry funds in the last few months. Pantry is very popular with the Senior Housing residents. The need is great during this difficult economic time; however, Christine noted that she would like to keep a large reserve in this account and slow down our spending.

Dianne Faulkner moved to accept the Director's Report. Dick Preble seconded motion. Approved unanimously.

#### **Correspondence:**

- Discussed letter received from Elsa Francescone regarding the recreation needs of senior residents and her suggestion for the installation of Pickleball courts. The Council agreed this is a sound proposal and discussed possible locations. It was decided that the Parks and Recreation Department would be the proper Department to pursue and voted unanimously that a letter be sent to them with copies to the Select Board and Ms. Francescone that the Council on Aging fully supports this proposal.

## **New Business**

- At the suggestion of Christine, discussion ensued regarding the formation of working groups to pursue programs such as the Spring Fling and Trips. This would provide some help to Christine with her current work load.
- After some deliberation, it was agreed to abandon the concept of the Spring Fling, focusing instead on the delicious home-made luncheons and dinners provided by Jen. These programs are becoming increasingly more popular. It was suggested that each Council member invite a friend to attend.
- Gail, Jessa, Dianne, and Marge volunteered to investigate trip options and costs. It was agreed to begin with a half-day trip. Some suggestions: museums, theaters, garden show. They will report back to Christine with their recommendations and findings.
- Beginning in April an additional 3B class will be held at 3:30 on Wednesdays.
- The 6th grade chorus will be providing entertainment at a luncheon in May.

Dianne Faulkner moved that this meeting adjourn. Jacquie Johnston seconded. Voted unanimously to adjourn at 9:50 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Marjorie Peterson, Secretary

### **Meeting Documents:**

Draft minutes of COA Meeting on January 10, 2023

COA Financial Report as of January 31, 2023

COA Director's Report for January 2023

Correspondence from resident regarding Pickleball courts

Draft of SAGE Center News March/April 2023