



COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
Town of Southwick
Council on Aging
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COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING
Monday September 13, 2021 at 12:30pm

Meeting called to order by Paula LeBlanc 12:35 pm

Present: Paula LeBlanc, Harvey Holm, Theresa Rogers, Donna Foisy, Donna Charron, Harriet Fischer, Carol Laughlin and Director Cindy Sullivan

Absent: Jack Pocal

No Public participation.

Minutes reviewed and accepted. Motion made by Donna Charron and seconded by Theresa Rogers, accepted unanimously.

New Business:

Update from COA director:

New Employee Cara Cartello is introduced to the board.

A meeting is scheduled for 7pm, September 13, 2021 with the Select Board in the auditorium of the Town Hall to discuss the merger of responsibilities of two departments, Council on Aging and Park and Recreation. Cindy Sullivan to be Director and Cara Cartello Assistant Director. This will not affect the two boards but will only increase responsibilities to Cindy and Cara. Board members from COA who volunteered to attend: Paula LeBlanc, Carol Laughlin, Theresa Rogers and Donna Foisy.

A Companion Program hopefully will start the beginning of the year. This program will consist of volunteers to take seniors to cancer treatments, physical therapy sessions and other medical or nonmedical appointments above and beyond times when van is not operating. Volunteers will need to fill out an application and will be Cori checked and reimbursed for mileage.

A letter has been received from Carol Smith requesting to become a new COA Associate Member. Paula LeBlanc motioned to accept new associate member and Carol Laughlin 2nd the motion. Director will send to Select Board.

Update about Programs:

Dining room- grab and go hot lunches for pick-ups and dining inside are down somewhat but do still see generally the same seniors attending.

Brown Bag- second Tuesday of the month, volunteers continue to carry bags to cars from garage. Going smoothly with plenty of volunteers.

Transportation - in full swing with vans busy running and picking up. Many trips are planned and masks still need to be worn. Ken Johnson gave notice for November. Cindy is working with FRTA regarding a new software program to help with scheduling vans on a more consistent time basis and if there is any underlining cost.

Finances - in good shape. Friends of the Southwick Senior Center applying for grants that the Senior Center can't easily accept.

Classes - Begin on September 13, 2021 indoors at \$2. New Chinese Language class is being well supported.

Any other New Business:

There will be a Drop-In Flu Clinic on October 6, 2021 from 9am to noon. Seniors may register a time slot or just drop-in. CVS will be administering the shots.

Old Business:

The Welcome Back Celebration Event was very successful. All 4 events were well attended with around 70 for the first 3 events and 15 for the craft session. There were a number of new members and several sign-ups for the Friends of the Senior Center.

Motion to adjourn at 1:10pm by Theresa Rogers, seconded by Donna Charron, accepted unanimously.

Next Meeting, Monday, October 18, 2021 at 12:30pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Foisy