

COA Meeting Notes

June 10, 2020

Teleconference via the Town of Mendon conference call line 774-462-5991 code 1233

June 10, 2020 @ 10:00 am

Participants: Earl Pearlman, Peg Nogueira, Carol Kotros, Mary Ann Hopkins, Diane Howell, Jenn Talamini, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson-Kent. Ann resumed her duties as Secretary.

Amy, acting as moderator, read the provided script for conference call open meeting guidelines provided by the Governor, which includes ground rules to allow for better communication.

Once the meeting begins, Earl will introduce each agenda item and allow comments by roll call. All voting will be done by roll call.

Amy conducted the meeting roll call. All COA members were participants.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were unanimously approved. Amy had sent a written Director's report for our review. Some highlights included: meetings she attended remotely and the purpose of the meetings, FinCom meeting at which a new member had several questions and Town Administrator's answers were very supportive of the senior center, the urinal wouldn't stop running and plumber will take a look next week, generator hasn't been inspected by the town electrician for awhile and Amy is working on getting this done.

Friends' Vice President, Sue Carlson, did not participate in today's meeting but had informed Amy that no one has signed up for the fall trip which will most likely be cancelled and that refunds have been given for June's cancelled Portland ME trip.

Old Business

Food Pantry—42 boxes were prepared this month. Amy had to purchase new boxes at Home Depot because the old ones were falling apart. Neighborhood Brigade is handling deliveries.

Architectural/Engineering—have still to meet for presentation but architectural drawings indicate the plan is too expensive for our means.

ABMI—they are willing to have one person at a time come into the studio for taping. Taping of our exercise programs not possible right now. Jenn reported Cooking For One program is in the works. She is looking for ideas on other beneficial programs.

COA Budget—now that the override passed, FinCom budget should also pass. However, if the town's overall receipts don't add up, there could be other cuts. We have the least budget of any town department, so fingers crossed, they will leave us alone.

Volunteer Appreciation—Earl does not see us having a large gathering in the fall so we should come up with alternate ideas. Diane said the Pen Pal program made up Party in a Bag for each student. Earl thought pictures of the volunteers for an edition of the newsletter might be nice.

30th Anniversary—Peg reported that the committee has been conference calling, next meeting end of June. John Trainor wants to do a drone flyover of the town ending at the senior center. He would also like to concentrate on early senior center years, celebrating the past but looking ahead to the future.

Mission/Vision Statement—on hold until we can meet in person

Senior of the Year—have received 3 nominations so far. Diane said she intends to submit a name. Jenn suggested a program on ABMI highlighting the selected nominee.

Pen Pal Program—Diane said on June 18 the Clough teachers are supposed to clean out their students' desks. Amy thought it might be nice if the senior pen pals were at the school parking lot to wave to the students and possibly meet at a safe distance.

New Business

MCOA Guidance for Reopening—Part 1: Transportation involves training and screening staff, educating riders, limiting number of riders, social distancing, hygiene protocols. Amy is looking into purchasing a machine which uses non chemicals for disinfecting. Part 2: Building Reopening Considerations would involve following state and local BOH standards, program restrictions, town residents only for the time being, feedback from constituents, protocols for training staff and volunteers, number of people allowed in building at any one time, including staff, is 12 on our main floor and 6 upstairs.

Open Forum

Diane is still concerned about safety crossing to the senior center. Amy said a sign that lights up costs \$1600.

MCOA fall conference in Sturbridge is now virtual

Laura Newton gave her notice yesterday. Her last day is June 18. She is relocating to the mid-west Minnesota/Wisconsin area. She will be greatly missed. We discussed a gift from the Council.

Mary Ann announced that she has to resign from the COA in order to babysit for her new grandson. She will still be able to volunteer in the food pantry.

Meeting ended at 11:35am.

Next meeting July 8, 2020

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Vandersluis

Secretary