

## COA Meeting Notes

March 9, 2022

Peg called the meeting to order at 10:10 am. Members present: Peg Nogueira, Earl Pearlman, Carol Kotros, Diane Howell, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson-Kent. Also present: Betsy Edsall, Friends' Vice President. The meeting was held at Town Hall and was being recorded, so Peg had us introduce ourselves and give our titles.

The Secretary and Treasurer's Reports were unanimously approved. The Expense Control Report shows that we are in good shape financially. The Director's report will be interspersed throughout, but Amy did distribute the Outreach Info Packet that she will present to FinCom tonight to request an additional 12 hours for the Outreach position. Peg asked if there is anything we need to purchase now that the Center is opening up. Amy said the furniture and file cabinet in the upstairs Outreach and SHINE office is in bad shape, so she is getting quotes to replace those items.

Friends' Report: Betsy Edsall said permits for the Progressive Yard Sale on June 11 (Rain date June 12) have been received. Fundraiser permits are valid until March 2023 and can encompass 12 fundraisers. Friends currently have 49 paid members and the monthly meetings are going well with more members in attendance. Also, they have selected a three member scholarship fund committee. Requirements and application forms have been sent to Nipmuc HS and Blackstone Valley Tech HS.

### Old Business

Food Pantry—is very well stocked and well organized; Janet handles the paperwork; rising food costs are a concern for clients, especially families, in conjunction with food stamp allotments being decreased.

Senior Center Architectural Presentation—will take place on Wed Mar 16 at 6pm in the town hall; Friends' members will be notified to hopefully have some seniors present at the meeting.

FY23 Budget—same as last year with an additional request for 12 more hours for the Outreach position.

Annual Report & Statistics—Amy completed the report and submitted it to the Select Board.

Review 2022 Goals & Events—things are picking up on a grand scale; lots of group activities, educational meetings and entertainment is scheduled; we set dates for the senior cookout,

senior tea, ice cream social and Veteran's breakfast. Melissa Rezek is presently working on April's newsletter.

#### New Business

MCOA Small & Rural Senior Center Conference in Sturbridge—Wednesday May 4, 2022. Some COA members said they were interested in attending.

Mission/Vision Statement—we picked up where we left off reviewing in 2020 before Covid and were able to tweak the current mission statement with some clarifications. The final product reads as follows: The mission of the Mendon Council on Aging is to assess the needs of Mendon's senior community and respond to those needs by developing, promoting and encouraging new and existing programs and services that allow for enrichment, independence, quality of life and fostering healthy aging with grace and dignity. We tabled the review of the Vision Statement until our next meeting.

#### Open Forum

Our annual Board/Staff Training session will take place on Wed Apr 6 @ Lowell's Restaurant.

Amy was invited to read at Clough School's reading day on Apr 4.

Peg asked about the cane being given to the oldest senior now that Georgia Deane has passed; Amy said Janet is working on it.

Meeting adjourned 11:45am. Next meeting April 13, 2020 at 10am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Vandersluis

Secretary