

COA Meeting Notes

October 13, 2021

Peg called the meeting to order at 10:00am. Members present: Peg Nogueira, Diane Howell, Carol Kotros, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson-Kent. Earl Pearlman was absent but happily will return at next month's meeting.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were unanimously approved. Amy gave a verbal Director's report: the bulk of her planning was for Senior Citizen's Day on September 19, 2021; fuel assistance applications are underway, approximately 40 applications; senior tax abatement program was finalized and sent to town hall; coordinated assignments for new volunteers; coordinated building projects, i.e., garage door was stabilized, chair lift worked on, inside and outside doors painted.

Friends' Meeting: Cheryl Kearsley was covering the phones so she gave us a summary of their Oct 4th meeting which was attended by 19 people. There were a couple of new faces. They are still looking for President and Vice President. One attendee did express interest in becoming a board member. Diane Howell and Kay Holmes were appointed to the nominating committee for Friends' board. LaSalette Shrine in Attleboro is offering Christmas dinners for parties of 10 or more during their Festival of Lights. Friends are checking out the cost. Friends are currently conducting an in-house puzzle sale.

Old Business

Food Pantry—National Honor Society student, Owen Thompson, held a very successful food drive and on-line yard sale. The annual Scout Food Drive is on November 6, 2021.

Program Updates—Mendon Minstrels rehearsals begin October 18 from 1-3pm with a Christmas program on December 13, 2021.

Friends' monthly dine-outs have resumed. See additional activities above under Friends' meeting.

Recreational activities—card games are underway as well as exercise and walking programs.

Senior Center Architectural/Engineering Study—presentation to Select board on Wednesday, October 27, to emphasize the need for the expansion and that it is now our department's turn for improvements.

Senior Citizens Day—September 19—was very successful, beautiful weather, speaker system worked out very well, police detail was extremely helpful and the event was well attended.

Building Improvements—see above Director's report.

Staff Updates—there were 70+ applicants for the Admin Assistant position; HR will narrow it down to 5; interviews later this month.

Board Vacancies—Select Board and Town Clerk were notified and positions have been posted.

Veterans' Appreciation—mailing of letters of appreciation to commence soon; Sue Carlson will accept calls from those responding, who in turn will receive restaurant gift cards in lieu of the Veterans Breakfast.

New Business

Flu Shot Clinic @ Misco Hill School on October 18 from 5-7pm. Pre-registration is required.

SHINE Open Enrollment starts Oct 15. Larry Goldman retired but we still have Robin Fletcher and Chet Twardicki.

Holiday Meals—Brothers of the Brush are again doing Thanksgiving meals for senior housing residents and have asked Amy and Janet to provide names of 6 families in need.

Annual Holiday Dinner sponsored by the Ferruccis will be grab n' go again same as last year. Peg suggested Mendon Minstrels could sing holiday songs through open windows as cars drive up.

Open Forum

Re: flashing light to slow traffic at senior center, Amy heard from Alan and he is working on it. Thimble Pleasures asked for a family in need to sponsor for Christmas. Peg acknowledged Amy and Janet for everything they have been doing during Covid-19 without any additional help. Peg also mentioned that the Historical Society is selling cookbooks for \$12 with recipes from early Mendon.

Meeting adjourned 11:45am. Next meeting November 10, 2021. Respectfully submitted,

Ann Vandersluis, Secretary