

COA Meeting Notes

October 14, 2020

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

Peg called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. Participants included: Peg Nogueira, Earl Pearlman, Diane Howell, Jenn Talamini, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson-Kent. Carol Kotros was absent. Sue Carlson from The Friends also participated.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were unanimously accepted. During the Treasurer report Amy mentioned she received a \$744.84 grant for Covid-19 funding. Amy did not give a Director's report because everything she has to discuss is tied in with today's agenda.

Friends report: Sue said the garage book sale is off to a good start; Diane said she is waiting for room in the garage to move more books out from the basement; the Friends President in is rehab and Ann will send her a card from the COA.

Old Business

Food Pantry—Scouts food drive is on Nov 14; flyer will be in The Crier for food pantry needs; shelves are currently well stocked; incoming food will remain in boxes in the garage for 3 days to air out germs; Feeds and Needs is accepting empty egg cartons which they will sell for 25 cents each and donate profits to the food pantry.

ABMI Cable Program—Jenn is coordinating a time to meet with Tyler from the station; she plans to start with Seniors of the Year; Amy mentioned John Trainor has a 7 minute video taken on Oct 4, Senior Citizens Day; Jenn will contact John to see if this can be included in the program; Wayne's life preserver gift is in so we will present it to him this Friday at 11:00 am.

Senior of the Year Event—weather was beautiful for the parade; Selectman Lawney Tinio expressed his pride in taking part in the ceremony after the parade; COA is appreciative to Amy for going above and beyond organizing the event; Friends were prepared to assist Lions Club financially, but they were all set, so Friends donated \$200 to Senior Center for costs of signs, balloons, banners, gifts, etc. Amy mentioned that we should have a banner for the COA as we are the only ones who don't have one.

Volunteer Appreciation—Amy said the sponsor hasn't forgotten us; we are still planning for November "Giving Thanks" theme around Thanksgiving.

30th Anniversary—still on tap for next year; committee hasn't met lately; will table till January.

Senior Center Opening/Van Transportation—Amy said center is open by appointment only for now; she needs to get the van up and running for medical appointments; she will send a letter of request to the BOH; regarding the electric car which Town Admin wants us to use, Amy will ask if town will refit with plexiglass for Covid protection and ask about insurance coverage for passengers.

Aide Position—140 have applied so far; HR set deadline for Oct 21; interviews will take place in November.

New Business

Flu Shot Clinic—at Misco School on October 28 from 4-6 pm; only 150 shots available; must apply to BOH

SHINE Open Enrollment—Larry Goldman is still our representative; Janet is on board now with guidance; SHINE is not permitting face to face contact; phone or email only

Veteran's Appreciation—Earl suggested sending a letter to all town veterans thanking them for their service, including the poem "We Remember Them" honoring those who have passed, also including a \$5 gift card to Dunkin Donuts; Police Association has sponsored this event in the past so Amy will contact them to see if they will do so this year.

Holiday Meals—Brothers of the Brush plan to offer home cooked Thanksgiving dinners from Willow Brook restaurant to senior housing residents; they told Amy there will be 6-12 additional meals for other families in need; Amy asked if we still want to give \$25 grocery gift cards to food pantry clients for Thanksgiving and Christmas; everyone said yes. Regarding the December Holiday dinner, Dick Ferucci suggested meals to go, which he and Betty will sponsor; folks will have to sign up for it; we could schedule pick-up times to avoid traffic jam; we will discuss further at November meeting

Open Forum

Ann asked Amy if we could act on Kim's suggestion of having our meetings in upper town hall since all future meetings will have to be by teleconference for now; Peg asked about using Senior Center since tables are outfitted with plexiglass partitions; Amy will check on both of these options.

Amy said the Brothers have purchased a large entry ramp for a home; they contacted Amy to see if she knows of anyone who could use it; Amy does have somebody in mind.

Earlier in the year the Friends approved the yearly budget requests, but they have had no fund raising activities due to Covid-19, so Amy will pay the \$424 copier maintenance fee under contract services line item this year.

Election of Officers—Amy asked current officers if they are willing to serve again; Earl, Peg and Ann said yes as long as no one else would like to be co-chair or secretary; Amy will contact Carol to see if she wants to continue as Treasurer; if for some reason she can't, both Jenn and Diane said they would be willing to read the report aloud each month as the report is put together by Amy.

November 11 is Veteran's Day so our next meeting will be November 18, 2020. Today's meeting adjourned at 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Vandersluis

Secretary