

COA Meeting Notes

September 14, 2022

Earl called the meeting to order at 10:00 am. Members present: Earl Pearlman, Peg Nogueira, Carol Kotros, Diane Howell, Dona Sun, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson-Kent. Also attending: Betsy Edsall, Friends' Vice President, and Mendon resident, Phil Cieply, who was interested in learning what the COA does. Earl had us introduce ourselves since the meeting was being recorded.

The Secretary and Treasurer's reports were unanimously approved. Amy reported that fuel assistance is underway and that clients need to make an appointment; the 4 week Memory Training program begins today with 17 people enrolled; the 8 week Matter of Balance program begins Sept 21 with a maximum of 12 signed up; Amy completed the Cultural Council grant application for the Eleanor Roosevelt portrayer on May 3, 2023; Orchestra of One holiday program is on Dec 22; the remaining Director's report will be interspersed throughout.

Betsy gave the Friends' report: the Friends provided bags of school supplies for pre-school through grade 4 at Clough School; they have a booth at the Lion's Country Fair on Oct 9 in which they will have a gift basket raffle and bake sale; they currently have 93 dues paying members; In January they need to come up with nominations for President and Vice President and they will need a new scholarship chairperson; the Oct 17 meeting will be a Halloween theme with costumes optional.

Old Business

Food Pantry—Amy hasn't heard back from the Scouts regarding the November Food Drive; The Crier has stopped printing so the flier with needed items that we usually include will have to be mailed; Peg made a motion to approve up to \$500 for the mailing; Ann seconded; all approved; W.B. Mason has been providing the paper goods and it's working out well; some clients are doing self-serve by appointment; steady donations are still coming in.

Senior Center Architect—Dan Byer sent Amy documents regarding the well issue which she forwarded to the architect; we will request the Select Board to form a building committee and will try to get on their agenda for October.

Follow-up Summer Programs—Senior Cookout had plenty of food and volunteers and was enjoyed by all; the Senior Tea was a very lovely event with several types of tea and a happy crowd with several new attendees; the Ice Cream Social sponsored by the Friends was a lot of fun with entertainment by Orchestra of One.

Acceptable Behavior policy—some other centers have a “code of conduct” policy and some have none; there were recommendations to not put it in the newsletter and Amy feels this way, too; she will update the policy to include van and food pantry and we will review and approve at October's meeting.

Storage Options—for DME equipment; preferably portable; \$200/mo rental fee; building another shed is quite expensive so for now we will go with the rental option.

Drivers' Safety—at parking lot entrance and exits; Amy spoke with the Highway Supervisor and he recommended solar signs indicating drivers'

speeds; they cost \$1600 apiece; Alan told Amy to contact the rep from the transportation signage company, which she will do.

New Business

Senior Citizen Day—Sept 18, 2022—Kevin Rudden is this year's recipient; the event is sponsored by the Lions Club and catered by Oliva's; they also want to include home delivered meals; Amy is ordering the cake.

Eagle Scout Project Request—Kyle Miller wants to put up 3 small library book cabinets on posts made of wood and plexiglass; the 3 locations are the Senior Center, Clough School and Memorial Park; Peg made a motion to accept the project; Earl seconded; all approved. It will be located in front of the gazebo to the side of the ramp.

Review of Evidence Based Programs—see previous Director's notes re: Memory Training and Matter of Balance.

Veterans Appreciation Breakfast—Veterans Day, November 11, 2022; too many programs to cancel on Wed and Thurs; the board thought this will be workable and could possibly attract more vets.

Holiday Programs—Mendon Minstrels Holiday Concert Thurs Dec 8; Ferrucci sponsored Holiday Lunch Wed Dec 14; Orchestra of One holiday program Thurs Dec 22; the December COA Meeting will be moved to Dec 7.

Open Forum

Halloween Hat Party on Thurs Oct 27 will be a pizza & salad lunch. Also, on that day, back by popular demand Music Bingo at 11am. Amy would like to have one entertainment every month.

For the October newsletter there will be a blurb urging folks to subscribe to the newsletter online; flu clinics will take place at the senior center on Oct 7 and Miscoe School on Oct 21; a thank-you and acknowledgement for Neighborhood Brigade which helps us out under many circumstances.

Dona Sun will be the COA representative on the travel committee.

Meeting adjourned 11:45. Next meeting October 12, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Vandersluis

Secretary