

CHELSEA COUNCIL ON ELDER AFFAIRS
December 8, 2021
MINUTES

Jamie called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. and prayer was said.

Roll Call was taken. Present: Jean Chapman, Irene Malachowski, Robert Mullaley, Tracy Nowicki, Jaime Santos and Greg Walczak. Absent: Nino Bongiovanni and Rebecca Swope.

Secretary's Report: Everyone received notice of the meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Everyone received a copy of the Petty Cash Report. Gerald made a motion to accept and Irene 2nd the motion.

Director's Report: The camera system is up and working. It is nice to have the extra security especially with the Covid Clinic being held at the Center 4 days a week. We are still waiting for the curb cut and the lockers in the ceramics room.

The R.F.P. is almost done for the shuttle service. Robert Mullaley praised the program. The driver took him for his prescriptions at Walgreens and waited for him.

We have lost many members since the start of Covid, most non-Covid related. Recently our good friend and one of our top volunteers, Bill Burge, lost his wife, Cathy. A moment of silence was taken for all of those we have lost.

There has been a decline in brown bag participants. We have suspended the program through the winter and will resume in March. Gerald mentioned that the Veterans brown bag program has declined in participants also. The nonperishable food left over from the Vet's bag is donated to our pantry.

Tracy also wanted to go on record thanking Senior Advocate, Geraldine Portillo, for her hard work finding housing for one of our homeless members. This situation was dire; often times the member would be sleeping outside in the stairwell on the side of our building. In her efforts, Geraldine was able to secure and place our member quickly, just in time before the very cold/snowy weather starts. Housing lists are extremely long and the process and writing is very exhaustive. Geraldine, in her due diligence, and in this dire situation, made this happen. We have another homeless member, in the same extreme situation who Geraldine is also working with and this effort also looks to have suitable housing for her as well. Geraldine has been a great asset to our center. Tracy thanked our Board member, Dr. Mullaley for recommending we receive a very generous donation.

Chelsea resident, Mr. Dennis Charette, donated \$5,000 to the FCOA Board. The money will be utilized toward many improvements to our center. An appropriate thank you is in order. The Board suggestion a letter from them and possibly a photo op for the Chelsea Record. Gerald made a motion to accept and Irene 2nd the motion. The election of President and Vice President will be held at the March meeting, which will be on Wednesday, March 9th at 9:30. Anyone interested should submit their resume to Deb Connors before the next meeting.

Party Committee: The November party was a huge success. Mikey has been a great DJ and coordinator of food and activities at the parties. We will have Charly, the live entertainer, back for the December party which is on Thursday, December 16th. Greg made a motion to accept and Antonio 2nd the meeting.

Travel Committee: There is nothing to report regarding travel. LaSalette lights was mentioned again but there was not a good response due to the cost of the trip. We will look into trips for the Spring that are free or low cost. Gerald made a motion to accept and Greg 2nd the motion.

Tracy wished the board Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year.

There being no other business, the meeting adjourned at 10:17.

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