

Council on Aging Meeting Minutes

May 16, 2023

In Person Meeting @ Greenfield Senior Center

COA Members Present: Chair, Peg Saulnier, Janice Cobert, Linda Smith, Karen McCormack, Randie Handlemann, Marsha Staples-Love, Michelle Delisio, Margo Townley, Margot Peck

Absent : Pat Jordan

Staff present: Hope Macary, Kathy Dunn, MaryAnn Socquet

LifePath Representative: Michelle Delisio

Guests/Public: none

Peg Saulnier called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM

Secretary's Report: Correction, Marsha Staples-Love was absent on April 18th. Unanimously approved with correction

Treasurer's Report: The petty cash is in balance

Staff Reports:

Hope Macary:

FY24 City Budget in process. Mayor has proposed \$169,620 for the COA, with the budget now going to the city council. The final city council budget meetings will be Wednesday, May 17th, 6:30 PM and Thursday, May 18th. If needed, a meeting will be held on Monday, May 22nd.

Age Friendly Project – Phase one (assessment and planning) is almost complete. Phase two will begin in FY24.

Social Services Grant Application – no update from the Fred B. Wells Trust.

Presented a request for a Digital Equality Grant. This grant would be for \$100,000 used to support digital equity in Greenfield. This would be used to purchase ipads with a training component required. In partnership with GCC students providing training. Randi Handlemann made a motion to support the grant, seconded by Marsha Staples-Love. The vote for support was unanimous.

Senior Tax Work Off – applications are still being accepted. The applications were available on May 1 and interviews (with completed application) will be accepted until May 25th at 3:30 PM. There will be fifteen (15) maximum participants, earning up to \$1500.

Kathy Dunn:

Perkins Library- Article in the Recorder

Community Cuts – Free haircuts for seniors. Very well received, adding more appointments

Liberty Tax – Todd Cromack says they have processed 145 free tax returns for seniors. There were also 47 circuit breakers filed.

Hospice of Fisher Home – will be starting a grief/loss reading support group

Aerobics – Due to popularity and available space, starting May 22, the 9:30 AM class will be for Greenfield residents only. This is not permanent and will be readdressed at a later date.

MaryAnn Socquet:

Ending Fiscal year 23 and entering Fiscal year 24, we are in good shape. We will be giving back sums.

Committee Reports:

By-Laws Committee – Randie Handlemann requested feedback on the revised mission statement that was handed out at the last meeting. Michelle DeLisio requested that the term “from all backgrounds” be added after caregivers in the first sentence. This would enhance the statement with more inclusive language. Margo Townley brought up the issue of the Oxford comma being inserted in the list of services provided by the COA. The committee noted these suggests and will discuss them at the next meeting.

Old Business: None

New Business: Marsha Staples-Love noted that there needs to be a nominating committee meeting before the next COA meeting in June. Hope explained how nominations work. Linda Smith, chair of the nominating committee with set a date with the committee.

Announcements: None

Motion to adjourn by Janice Cobert, seconded by Karen McCormack.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 PM

Respectfully submitted,

Margot Peck