

NEWBURYPORT COUNCIL ON AGING
FEBRUARY 1, 2021

The Board of Directors of the Newburyport Council on Aging met on this date by Zoom due to the closure of the Newburyport Senior/Community Center in response to the COVID 19 pandemic.

Members Present:

Chris Czernik	Charles Carroll	Richard Eaton	John Green	Jo An Kincaid
Annie Maurer	Yvonee McQuilkin	Elaine Paglia		

Members Absent:

Cynthia Muir	Rosemary Decie
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Staff Present:

Paula Burke: Director, Newburyport Council on Aging

Mary Kelly: Activities Coordinator

Secretary's Report: Having reviewed and amended the Secretary's minutes of the previous meeting, it was moved, seconded, and

VOTED: To accept the Secretary's minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of January 21, 2021 as amended.

Activities Report:

- The activities report was reviewed and discussed. It is now posted on the website.
- The possibility of the COA helping to publicize the grandparents' support group run by Kathleen Shaw through Youth Services was discussed.

Director's Report:

- Kate Hernon has is interning with the COA and is helping register those who want to use the tax program and those who are seeking vaccines.
- Essential services such as Meals on Wheels and the food pantry are going well.
- Transportation services continue to be available.
- Board members are requested to participate in the initial run of the three new Zoom programs, a virtual tour, the community talk, and an arts program, next week. Paula and Mary will send out the invites and links before the programs.
- The COA is expected to get MySeniorCenter software soon.
- The next article in the Daily News will be on the tax preparation program. Articles will inform readers about the programs we offer as well as the services we provide.
- Friends of the COA are sharing their Facebook page with the COA. Work is beginning on a website and logo for the 50th anniversary commemoration this year.
- COA is prioritizing helping those who are 75+ get vaccination appointments.

Board Business

- John has agreed to work with Paula, Ben Iaconna, and Charlie on the cost and installation of the new generator in time to have a cooling center in case of heat waves and electricity disruptions next summer.
- Yvonne is looking at bus routes and considering who to talk to about shelters. Paula suggested she contact Matt Coogan, the city's chief administrative officer. He will know about funding, etc. The Merrimack Valley Regional Transit Authority could also be involved.
- Official Documents: Chris is working to pull together all documents relevant to the COA so each Board member has a copy. Paula is working with Charlie to get his files pulled together and available on the website.
- There is an open Board position to fill. Chris is looking to diversify the Board and is hoping to find nominees from underrepresented groups. Paula suggested a three person nominating subcommittee be established that can put forward a slate of nominees.

It was moved, seconded, and

VOTED: to create a nominating subcommittee consisting of Elaine, Chris and Annie.

- The 25th anniversary of the Friends is on April 24 and a celebration is being planned.
- The 50th anniversary of the COA is this year. Richard Jones, the City Clerk, is looking for the exact date. Roseann will head up a task group looking into the 50th celebration and is looking for 5-7 members to join her.
- It was decided that for the next meeting we would log in at 8:45.

It was moved, seconded, and

VOTED to adjourn the meeting at 10:30.

The next meeting will be on March 18 2021, at 9:00. Board members are requested to log in at 8:45.

Annie Maurer, Secretary