

NEWBURYPORT COUNCIL ON AGING  
November 17, 2022

The Board of Directors of the Newburyport Council on Aging met on this day at the Newburyport Senior/Community Center, 331 High Street, Newburyport, MA 01950.

Board Chair Elaine Paglia called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Rosemary Decie	John Green	Annie Maurer	Yvonne McQuikin
Cynthia Muir	Elaine Paglia	Erin Sheehy	

MEMBERS ABSENT

Richie Easton (excused)  
Marcie Neville (excused)

STAFF PRESENT

Mary Kelly: Activities Coordinator  
Ann Freeman: Outreach Specialist

SECRETARY'S REPORT

Having reviewed the Secretary's minutes from the previous meeting, it was moved, seconded, and

**Voted:** To accept the Secretary's notes for the Board of Directors meeting on October 20, 2022.

ACTIVITIES REPORT: Mary Kelly

- The COA is having a holiday open house on the evening of December 1st from 5:00 to 7:00. Seniors will be able to request transportation to the event.
- On December 8 there will be an intergenerational show at 10:00 a.m.
- On December 9 the Nock Middle School orchestra will perform at lunch and that evening is the Newburyport schools art show and sale.
- The public health nurse is back.
- There was a discussion around use of the building during COA hours, especially if it impacts COA programming.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW OUTREACH SPECIALIST

- The Board welcomed Ann Freeman, the new Outreach Specialist.
- Ann outlined her plans including reaching out to seniors in the community in various ways including visiting senior housing and finding resources to help with computer access for seniors who are not computer savvy.
- The Outreach Specialist's job description will be looked at in six months to revise if needed.

FRIENDS OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

- FONCOA'S finances are in good shape and more money is coming in from the raffle.
- There are new members on the board and things are moving along.
- The COA Board's requests to the Friend's Board are conveyed in a formal session by the COA Board liaison and the Friend's Board votes to approve or disapprove.
- Erin, the COA Board liaison, plans to take the Board's request for a digital board to announce events, post pictures, etc. The price is around \$6000.

#### BOARD BUSINESS

- Is it possible for there to be more contingency funds to help seniors with increased energy costs this winter?
- Transportation committee reports that a representative from MVRTA is coming in January to the Board meeting. Once we have an idea of the city's plans for shelters, signage, etc. we will know if we need to find alternative solutions. Could local businesses sponsor bus stops? The January meeting will be devoted to transportation issues.
- The board is asked to attend the December 1st Open House and the December 8th event.
- A monthly spreadsheet showing activities and attendance will be available to the Board at the December meeting. There was a discussion on how best to use the data collected and how it might be helpful.
- Board members are asked to encourage people to go to the COA Facebook page as more users bring some benefit from Facebook.

It was moved, seconded, and

**Voted:** to adjourn at 10:15

The next meeting of the Newburyport Council on Aging Board of Directors will be on December 15, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. at the Newburyport Senior Community Center.

Annie Maurer  
Secretary