

NEWBURYPORT COUNCIL ON AGING
December 20, 2023

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

President Elaine Paglia called the meeting to order at 9:05 am.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elaine Paglia	Paul Bushey	John Green	Ilene Hamch-Grady
Annie Maurer	Erin Sheehy	Mary Lou Gagnon	Jeanette Isabella

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Marcie Neville	Rosemary Decie
----------------	----------------

STAFF PRESENT:

Sara Landry: Director, Newburyport Council on Aging

GUESTS:

Christine Chapman: prospective Board member

Deb Mousley: Chair, Friends of the Newburyport Council on Aging Board

SECRETARY'S REPORT:

Having reviewed the Secretary's report of the previous meeting, it was moved, seconded, and VOTED: to accept the Secretary's minutes of the Board of Directors meeting of November 16, 2023.

FRIENDS OF THE NEWBURYPORT COUNCIL ON AGING: Deb Mousley

- The COA director submitted a budget for desired activities. FNOCOA Board is looking at them and voting on what they can do.
- FNOCOA is making a shift from advisory to fundraising and is looking to increase the number of fundraising events and to collaborate with the COA board on events.
- Sara pointed out that there are no city funds for programs at this point so funding needs to come from Friends and COA.

ELECTRONIC BOARD: Erin Sheehy

- It's up and besides display, has access to programs, e.g. YouTube, as well.
- Sara, Mary, Erin, and Rosemary will be trained on using the board.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Sara Landry

- The newly designed newsletter was given out and reviewed. One change is that regularly scheduled programs won't be in it, rather there will be a flier with that schedule.
- Work is being done to clean up and update My Seniors database. Included will be: making sure verbiage in flier on programs and on MySeniors matches; getting scan

cards distributed and making sure people use them to sign in; familiarizing people with their ability to sign up for, or withdraw from, programs on line; and clean out the database of people who are on it but do not participate in programs.

- Statistics so far show:
 1. Fitness classes are most attended followed by social events, nutritional programs, and cultural events.
 2. Most people attending are 70 to 80 years old.
 3. 70% of attendees are from Newburyport.
- Ann is working on a comprehensive updating of the resource guide. She documents who she is servicing and what their needs are. She would like to do a needs assessment of the Newburyport senior community. She has \$2000 in emergency funding for seniors in need.
- Work will be done to make sure programs across the city are better publicized and to collaborate with other entities such as the library and Y.
- Information on trends in the city were shared showing a growing percentage of seniors.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- The food insecurity committee has researched and recorded all food resources available in Greater Newburyport and are working on a way to distribute the information. They will meet on Jan. 12 at 9:30.
- It was decided to end the transportation committee. Board members were asked to email Elaine and let her know which committee they would like to serve on if they are not currently on one.

Having concluded the Board's business, it was moved, seconded,
VOTED: To adjourn the meeting at 10:20 am.

The next meeting is on January 18 at 9:00 at the Newburyport Senior/Community Center.

Ann Maurer, Secretary