

NEWBURYPORT COUNCIL ON AGING  
May 18, 2023

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

Board Chair Elaine Paglia called the meeting to order at 9:07 am.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Elaine Paglia    Richard Eaton    John Green    Annie Maurer    Rosemary Decie  
Marcie Nevelle    Erin Sheehy    Paul Bushey    Alice Sheridan    Yvonne McQuilkin

STAFF PRESENT

Paula Burke: Director, Newburyport Council on Aging

GUEST

Deborah Mousely: Board Chair, Friends of the Newburyport Council on Aging

CLERK'S REPORT:

Having received the Clerk's minutes of the previous meeting, it was moved, seconded, and

VOTED: To accept the Clerk's report of the Board of Directors meeting of March 16, 2023 with minor revisions.

BOARD OFFICERS:

After receiving the slate of nominees for next year's Board officers, it was moved, seconded, and

VOTED: To elect the following officers for the 2023/2024 year:

Board Chair: Elaine Paglia

Vice Chair: Paul Bushey

Clerk: Annie Maurer

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Paula Burke

- Paula will present the budget and items in the capital plan to the City Council. The capital plan includes getting plug-in minivans and developing a multi-use space, Board members are encouraged to attend the meeting on Tuesday in the City Council Chambers.
- There will be a Veteran's lunch with the mayor on Thursday, sign up if you can attend.

- Jennie Salem who is working per diem and her work includes keeping track of people coming into the center.
- There is a bus ride around town on June 16 to show off the new routes. Board members are encouraged to attend.
- Amesbury is proposing some inter COA competitions (trivia, cornhole, etc.).
- Pickleball will take place Mondays, Wednesday, and Fridays from 9:00 - 12:00 from July 10 until the start of school.
- The center will be closed on May 24 to install the new generator,

#### SUBCOMMITTEE REPORTS

- Transportation: The subcommittee met with MEVA on May 3. They have been getting feedback on the new routes. There may be a grant that will cover bus shelters and they would like input from the COA on placement. Erin has created a document showing the new routes and is waiting for feedback from MEVA. There will be a June meeting at Heritage House about the new routes. Ridership across the district has doubled.
- Food Insecurity: The committee needs more volunteers. Will update in September on the flier showing food resources. Our Neighbors Table is back to pre-pandemic protocols.
- Data Analysis: The team will meet quarterly before the Board meeting to look at the data collected and report to the Board.
- Activities: John will chair the subcommittee. They will focus on monthly special events and quarterly big events. Marcie will serve on Data Analysis and Activities to facilitate using data to help look at the success of events.
- Facilities: Paula requested we set a direction on pets/service animals in the facility. The team also wants to know the rules around this citywide. Paula, Alice, Rosemary, and Elaine will be on the subcommittee.

#### BOARD DISCUSSION:

- The Board discussed if it would be possible to stagger driver hours to help cover for people whose appointments run past the driving times.
- It was decided to develop a Welcome Kit for new Board members that would provide information on the bylaws and meetings, and contact lists. The idea of providing a Board “buddy” to answer questions. Annie, Elaine, and Jenny will work on the packet.
- There was a discussion of Board attendance requirements and whether there should be clarification about in person vs. Zoom meetings. The discussion will continue in September.

The Board meeting ended with acknowledgement of Yvonne and Richie's long service on the Board and the contributions they made to the building of the center. They were presented with certificates of appreciation from the mayor.

It was moved, seconded, and  
VOTED: to adjourn the meeting at 10:22 am.

The next meeting of the Newburyport Council on Aging will be on September 21, 2023 at 9:00 am at the Newburyport Senior/Community Center.

Annie Maurer, Clerk