



TOWN OF BOYLSTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
**COUNCIL ON AGING OFFICE**  
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**COA Board Meeting Minutes**  
**October 4, 2023**

**Board Members Present:** Dennis Goguen, Deborah Goodrich, Warren Leach, Ed MacDonald, Karen Carter, Merrie Gerber, Lydia Cerce, Eileen Melican

**Staff Members Present:** Kathy Lohnes, Donna LoConte

**Agenda Items:**

Announcements

1. Call To Order: The meeting was called to order at 3:35.
2. Minutes Approval: Dennis made a motion to approve the September minutes. The motion was seconded and there was no discussion. The motion carried.
3. The board warmly welcomed Donna LoConte as the new COA Assistant.
4. Senior Citizens Society Update: Warren reported that the Society has 68 members and that 53 people attended the Elvis Program at the Town House in September. The Society has invited an estate planner, Atty. Jennifer Arnieri, to present to the seniors on Monday October 9th. The Society is also presenting the Singing Trooper on Monday November 13<sup>th</sup> and Quits of Valor in collaboration with the Central Community Grange. There is also a trip planned to Atlantic City in February.
5. Worcester County Sheriff's Department donated squash for seniors.

6. New Driver: Jason Bradford will be driving the van one day per week. He started on October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### Old Business

1. Fitness Class/Program Updates: A new yoga/mediation class started recently. Attendance so far has been low. Will continue to advertise and promote. Donna will post on FB and send the schedule to the Item. A Shine volunteer, Robin McGrath, will be doing a Medicare presentation on 10/24/2023 at 1:00 and then will be making appts with individual seniors from 10/25 through the end of November. Singer, Shawn Fullerton, will be entertaining at the Town House on Tuesday November 7<sup>th</sup> at 11:30. This is being financed through a grant from the Cultural Council.
2. Van Updates: The van has been busy every day! The lift is experiencing some difficulties. It has been scheduled for service on 10/16/2023. Dennis asked if the DPW could investigate. Kathy will follow up.
3. Town House elevator not working. The mechanic has been here to service it 3 times. There is a question of water damage. The insurance is being checked. Kathy will check with Bob on the current status.
4. The COA Van Scheduler title has been changed to COA Assistant. Kathy will be working on improving the pay grade for the van drivers.
5. Senior Center feasibility study: Dennis reported that the request for services to modify the Gough House for the purpose of becoming Boylston Senior Center is in. Dennis will update the board as information is available.
6. Signage for COA Office: Kathy spoke with Bob regarding signage. He provided some suggestions. Kathy to follow up.
7. New Board Meeting Time: The board will meet on the first Wednesday of each month at 3:30.
8. MOW Donation: Dennis made a motion to donate \$1500.00 to MOW. The motion was seconded. Discussion regarding the number of residents using this service ensued. A vote was taken on the motion, all were in favor of donating \$1500.00.

## New Business

1. Estate Planner Lawyer List: The board discussed the usefulness of preparing an estate planner list as a resource for our residents. The list would not be an endorsement of any planner but meant primarily as a local directory. This would be clearly noted in the document. Kathy will follow up with Elder Services for additional information.
2. Shine Presentation October 24<sup>th</sup> at 1:00.

Next meeting: Wednesday November 1, 2023.

The meeting adjourned at 4:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna LoConte  
COA Assistant