

Town of Boylston
Council on Aging
Meeting Minutes
June 17, 2021

Date of Meeting: Thursday, June 17, 2021

Location: Boylston Town House

Time: 6:02pm

Members Present: Dennis Goguen, Chairperson; Deborah Goodrich, Member; Warren Leach, Member David Wheeler, Member; Ed Macdonald, Member; Ozzie Sauer, Member; Laura Susanin, COA Coordinator; Kathy Lohnes, COA Assistant

Absent: none

Guests: WBAC filming

Minutes Approval: May minutes approved

Announcements: The volunteer appreciation lunch was a success. It was great to meet many of the volunteers who assisted with scheduling vaccine appointments and those who help with MOWs. Per Warren, the Senior Citizens Society will host their first meeting back on September 13. Ozzie is organizing a seniors' trip from November 1-3 to Atlantic City. Laura has listed both seniors' events in the newsletter going out soon. Most vaccines appointments have been scheduled for residents.

Old Business:

Board discusses move to Town House versus remaining in an office space at Town Hall. Dennis states he has spoken with April Steward, Town Administrator, and believes that move to Town House could be a step in the right direction for the COA having its own space. Warren, David and Ozzie express concern that the town has not contacted the Legion regarding the sharing of space. They are looking for someone from the town to meet with Charlie Gray and other members to discuss the office space. Laura and Warren state they will follow-up with A.Steward to set up a time. Laura and Kathy reiterate that COA's goal is to share the space and support the Legion. COA agrees that transition to Town House could be step toward showing that COA needs a "senior center" type of location to meet the needs of residents. Board agrees to move to Town House if meeting goes well with Legion. COA staffing reviewed. COA continues to look for per diem van drivers as we are currently down to one driver. Kathy has been helping out and we hope to have one of our drivers back from a medical leave. The COA budget was approved with increases for the Assistant and Driver positions. We are trying in-person programs – vaccinated participants do not need to wear masks but asking for those who are not vaccinated to wear them. Starting with Tajifit and Zumba Gold in person for now; the other classes will remain remote.

New Business:

Discover Hillside programming is going on for August. COA is cohosting an appraisal event and a summer concert. Goal is to increase awareness of the benefit of Hillside in town. COA agrees to split cost of events (\$250 for concert). Also possible for meditation program in September. Our newsletter publisher is looking for more

businesses to place ads. Board recommends newsletter contact Keith's, Tower Hill, Webster Bank and local gyms). Laura and Kathy are updating van policies – masks are still to be worn on van whether or not vaccinated. Board also agrees to accept donations at any class as donations were not accepted during Covid and online programs. Laura is making purchases by the end of the fiscal year for equipment/supplies for the potential new office at the Town House.

Comments:

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 1 at 6pm

Adjournment: 7:15pm