

Council on Aging Board of Directors Meeting

January 21, 2021

Present: Director, Jim Leyden, Chair George Shea, Lindsay Gill, Vice Chair Fran Miffitt, Marybeth Bergeron, Theresa Yesu, Saul Finestone, Marjorie Morgan, Eleanor Stolar, Judy Yaffe, Julie Pierce, Julie Moulton

Guest: Robin Frechette

Absent: Phil Hallahan, Ellie Tyson, Marilyn Hurst, Jan Komaiszko

Welcome: George called the meeting to order at 9:30 am.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from January were approved.

Reports:

Select Board: Our liaison from the Select Board was not available.

State Representative: Correction: Governor approved \$14.5M line item for local COA's for support grants, \$9.7M for Home Care Program, and \$4.7M for Community Choice program for Long Term Care. Saul will be calling Brian Ashe about Police Reform Bill. There is a new Speaker of the House and committees will be formed. More information will come in our February meeting.

Director: We added 10 new recipients for our Meals on Wheels program. Lindsay and Julie are doing a great job. COVID is taking up a big part of time and effort in the next couple of months.

Treasurer's Report: We have growth in our revolving account, and will continue to grow.

Meals on Wheels: Julie evaluated the program and made route changes to accommodate the needs. There are now 4 routes around town and will be implemented beginning in February. We will reevaluate when we go to the new building.

FOLOCCA: They have not been meeting.

Building Committee: There are delays due to COVID. Flooring in gymnasium delayed to getting the material. The flooring on the second floor is done and working on 1st floor. The building will be completed by February. The furniture should be arriving by March, and Marybeth is going to the new building every day.

Vaccine Update: Lindsay wants everyone to sign up for Code Red on line and they have a dedicated phone number. Our newsletter has information by Chief Deerborn, and the Town has asked for Volunteers and has a good response. We will add this to the Agenda for February for updates. You can also go to [mass.gov/Covid 19](https://mass.gov/Covid19) website for more information.

LACCF: Marybeth announced that we got an additional \$200,000 from Presley and Helen Blake. We have raised nearly \$850K for the new center. We have had significant interest from the community and have done several mailings; one being to those in Town under 60 and received good support. She is meeting with the Select Board about street signage. We are also securing artwork for the Center and will be soliciting naming opportunities.

Old Business:

The Food Pantry has had great support from Volunteers and donations from the community has increased.

The Tax Assistant Program has 4 different drop off days; Feb. 10, 24, March 17 & 31

New Business:

Julie Moulton talked about how we should be capturing stories of our elders in the community, such as they do on "Story Corps" on NPR radio. Lindsay will help with this project.

Judy also talked about our initiative on "Dementia Friendly" that we did last year, and which we may want to do some follow-up with this. Our Town Manager Lynn would like to get more involved with the "Age Friendly" initiative which encompasses the Dementia Friendly component.

The meeting adjourned at 10:15