

Dover Council on Aging Board Minutes Tuesday, January 12, 2021

Present: B. Cocks, J. Connolly, M. Dilg, C. Johnston, R. Townsend, G. Wise

Staff: J. Claypoole

Guests: C. Hudson, Warrant Committee; L. Pettit, Friends of the Dover COA; F. Spalding, Caryl Community Building Committee; J. Kent-Uritam

Meeting called to order at 9:30 a.m. via Zoom.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

A motion was made by J. Connolly and seconded by B. Cocks to approve the December 1, 2020 Minutes. All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT – The Fiscal Year 2021 Expense Control Report was distributed. The Fiscal Year January 7, 2021 report's current month operating expenses are \$2,056.95 and total year-to-date operating expenses are \$10,907.43. There was discussion regarding incoming money into the Revolving Fund that will be used to pay for expenses. A motion to accept the Jan 7, 2021 Treasurer's Report was made by B. Cocks and seconded by J. Connolly. All in favor.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Program Update – J. Claypoole reported at the Caryl Community Center that the Grab and Go meals and bread from Blue Moon Café continue with drive through pick up. Vegetables from Powisset Farm ended in December. COA had a generous donation of eggs from a Dover senior to share at this Thursday's bread pick up. Upcoming programs include:

- Virtual Nature Travel with Joy Marzolf sponsored by the Friends on Jan 20 (Belize), Feb 17 (Bahamas) and Mar 17 (Netherlands) with programs and Australia in April.
- Virtual Cooking with Chef Roberta Hing on Soups & Sandwiches (Jan 11) and Comfort Foods (Feb 8).
- Other upcoming Zoom programs include Jan 22-Coffee with the Police Chief, Jan 19-Coffee with the Town Assessor and Knitting Together weekly on Mondays.
- Fitness programs include a new Mat yoga (Mondays) and Friday Chair yoga program continues. A new class will begin on Mindful Meditation and Stress. Instructor A. DeSimone is expected to return at end of January to start Strength and Stretch classes.

Dover COA is partnering with surrounding COAs and the Dover Library. Library Teen volunteers want to offer virtual Bingo, and the book club may be started again. Dover seniors are invited to attend Resilience & Wellness 6 week virtual series coordinated by Sherborn COA. A grant of \$4,000.00 has been received from BI Needham for food security and healthy eating for seniors. Long term care facilities are reaching out to sponsor luncheons. Financial and energy assistance issues have now been transferred to the COA to manage. The COA has received many telephone calls on, "How do I get the vaccine and When does the senior center open?" At this moment, vaccine distribution is not scheduled in Dover and COA is working with the Board of Health on messaging to share with the community.

The COA Budget FY2022 will be presented to the Warrant Committee tomorrow night. C. Dwelley will present the Selectmen's budget which includes the COA. C. Hudson stated there should be no problem with the COA budget. The only generic outstanding issue is how we manage extra assistance for various departments.

Warrant Article – Elderly & Disabled Taxation Fund Item on last year's agenda will be on this year's agenda. B. Cocks mentioned the Board of Assessors has the same two articles they are bringing forward: property tax deferral for seniors which would reduce the interest rate from 8% to 4% and property tax exemption for people over 65 increasing the amount of the exemption from \$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00.

UPDATE ON AIR QUALITY AT CARYL COMMUNITY CENTER – J. Claypoole listed all the improvements to air quality in the Caryl Community Center. Re-opening plan guidelines have been developed. The building will be open by appointment and for scheduled programs only. One program per town department per time slot. The COA programs will not overlap with Park and Rec. We will have one program per day per department and it cannot exceed 60 minutes nor exceed building capacity as well as restrictions to capacity set by the State due to COVID-19 virus. There will be no more than five people per 1,000 sq. ft. or a maximum of ten if the room is larger than 10,000 sq. ft. Only participants of the programs will be allowed in the building. COA specific guidelines are to use the first-floor bathrooms only and all participants will be pre-screened. Goal is to open for appointments only by next week. The cafeteria can hold up to 7–8 people. A maximum of five people is allowed in Room 108. Food cannot be provided.

COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING UPDATE – F. Spalding provided an update. Committee is looking at an 18,000 sq. ft. building with a cost of no more than \$13m. We have narrowed down our building options to two new construction and two renovation options. This will be further narrowed down to one new construction and one renovation by the 2nd week of February. At that point, the architects will do a schematic rendering and cost estimates. All this information is on the Town's website. F. Spalding reviewed each of the options. Parking will be located at the back of the building. Currently, we do not know the number of parking spaces due to code and other issues. The new building and renovation options will have all the same systems that will keep the building open and environmentally healthy.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT – None

FRIENDS OF COA REPORT – G. Wise reported the Friends Board will meet at the end of the month. They received almost \$10K in membership dues. Lifetime Learning classes continue.

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

CITIZEN COMMENTS – None

ADJOURN

Motion to adjourn made by B. Cocks at 10:45 a.m. and seconded by J. Connolly. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Maureen Dilg, Secretary