

Dover Council on Aging Board Minutes
Tuesday, April 6, 2021

Present: B. Cocks, J. Connolly, M. Dilg, P. DiSanto, B. Hagan, C. Johnston, R. Townsend, G. Wise
Staff: J. Claypoole
Guest: L. Pettit

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 February 9, 2021 and March 2, 2021 Minutes. All in favor.

TREASURER'S REPORT – The Fiscal Year March 31, 2021 Expense Control Report's total monthly operating expenses are \$33,587.43 and total year-to-date operating expenses are \$128,626.05. A motion to accept the March 31, 2021 Treasurer's Report was made by J. Connolly and seconded by B. Cocks. All in favor.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – J. Claypoole reported the COA's grant monies are being spent first. Because we have not had as many programs this year due to the pandemic, some money may be turned back to the Town at the end of the fiscal year. The Warrant Committee is aware of this. A grant of \$4,000.00 from BID Needham for food security is being used for four Grab & Go Meals and for fresh vegetables from Powisset Farm in 2021. Sherborn COA received a grant from the Metropolitan Area Planning Council for transportation and has received permission to extend the grant to the community of Dover. Any senior that has a qualifying essential transportation need can have free transportation through JFK Transportation Services. The Formula Grant is a little over \$13,000.00; the COA has spent 65% of the grant to date. The Formula Grant is designated for a budget cut in FY2022 of about 20%. Dover will receive a little bit less money even though 2020 census numbers for residents age 60 and over have increased.

COVID-19 Vaccine Update – J. Claypoole reported vaccines for the homebound are now organized by the State, per decision by Dover Board of Health. The COA has made direct referrals for homebound seniors meeting the state's criteria. COA staff continue to follow up with families as they await homebound vaccines to be scheduled. Care workers who are with a homebound senior can also receive a vaccine when the state comes out to vaccinate the senior. The state opened up vaccines for 55 and older this week. The health issues on the medical list have expanded as there were many medical issues not on the list. Anyone over age 75 can still telephone 211 (State Vaccination Call Center). CVS appointments are difficult to find as they disappear fast. The COA is not receiving many calls regarding vaccines. Town Departments are still following state guidelines regarding opening the Caryl Community Center of capacity, mask wearing, and six feet distancing, even if residents have received their vaccine shots.

J. Connolly asked shouldn't we find ways of spending our monies instead of turning them back to the town? J. Claypoole replied she is looking at different ways to spend municipal funds with grant funds being spent first. J. Connolly suggested a computer on the wall in the private room. B. Cocks mentioned issues involved with using operating funds for capital expenses. The

Warrant Committee accepts that it has been a difficult year due to the pandemic, and the COA may need to return money, but this should not affect us going forward.

COMMUNITY CENTER BUILDING UPDATE

View of Day in New / Renovated Building – R. Townsend shared conceptual pictures of various rooms within the new Caryl Community Center and discussed each of the following areas: welcoming area with front desk, café area, fitness room, recreation room, meeting room, flexible space (arts and crafts, lifetime learning, etc.), community room, patio area outside of community room, and site plan option. In the renovation option, there is a monitor on the pavilion room and the COA is on the first floor. In the new 2-story option, the COA is on the 2nd floor. J. Connolly asked R. Townsend to define what café means. R. Townsend explained it is a café space with maybe a coffee machine. There will be an Information Session for seniors on April 20 at 6:00 p.m. and an outdoor meeting for seniors in early May. J. Connolly stated we need large visuals for people to look at. L. Pettit stated that the word renovation is misunderstood by many people as it will not be the same building inside.

CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT – None

FRIENDS OF COA REPORT – G. Wise reported the Friends will have a meeting at the end of the month. Friends are considering holding a BBQ in the fall. Memberships continue to increase. Lifetime Learning is continuing.

BOARD MEMBER ANNOUNCEMENTS – None

CITIZEN COMMENTS – None

ADJOURN

A motion to adjourn was made at 10:35 a.m. by B. Cocks and seconded by J. Connolly. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Dilg, Secretary