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MINUTES
MILLBURY COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Date: November 18, 2020, 7:30 AM

Present: Steve Walinsky, Edna LaPan, Marie Kosiba, Lee Ayotte, Sarahbeth Persiani, Richard Townsend, Christine Bott, Karen Peltier, Kevin Higginbottom, Joyce Sampson and COA Executive Director Judith O'Connor

Absent: Stuart Mulhane

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 AM by the Chairman, at the Senior Center by using Zoom remote #880 743 66654

VOUCHERS:

No Vouchers were signed at this meeting.

MINUTES:

A motion to accept the October minutes was made by Richard Townsend. Seconded by Lee Ayotte. Vote: unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE:

We received a letter from MCOA requesting us to send a support letter on behalf of the Shine Program. It's amendment 204 in the Senate Ways and Means FY21 proposal. Ms. O'Connor sent an e-mail to Senator Moore asking him to co-sponsor the amendment. In return the Senator answered he was happy to do that as the Shine program is most important to the elderly in our town.

We received an e-mail from, Bella Bertrand, Millbury H.S. National Honor Society offering free leave raking to the elderly. She has a group of students wanting to give back to the community. They are also planning a Grab and Go lasagna give away for the elderly. The Students will bake at the school under the direction of Mrs. Pine, who is serv safe. A motion was made by Joyce Sampson to allow a Grab and Go lasagna dinner give away for the elderly. Seconded by Richard Townsend. Vote Unanimous.

We received the contract for the Traveling Memory Cafe from CMRPC. Ms. O'Connor had our Town Manager sign it sent it to the Town of Leicester for their signature. The grant was for November 18, 2020

\$8,000.00 and we can start using the money effective November 1, 2020, and it continues for one year. This money is for salaries, supplies and materials for the program.

STANDING REPORTS:

- A. Budget and Finance – Budget forms should be sent to each department soon.
- B. Personnel – Ms. O'Connor reported that the additional money for our new position was voted on at the Fall Town Meeting.
- C. Nominating – N/A
- D. Legislative – Funding for the Shine program.
- E. Senior Center Usage – No requests at this time.
- F. Building Maintenance/Equipment – Ms. O'Connor reported that there are no major issues at this time. The building is being cleaned regularly.

Director's Report – Ms. O'Connor reported that she is still doing weekly Zoom conference calls with Elder Services and once a month with MCOA, WRTA and DTM (SNAP). Our Blood pressure clinic are being moved to inside the building every Tuesday. Our Memory Café is still traveling. We are still offering “Grab and Go” meals daily. We have 90 individuals signed up for the Thanksgiving meal. A drive by fund-raising event was held in place of the annual Fair. A new van was received from the WRTA (2021). The Police and Fire Chiefs held a food drive for the 3 food banks in our town. It was a huge success.

Chairman's Report – Mr. Walinsky reported that he attended the Fall town meeting at the request of the Town Manager. He was to come prepared for questions regarding the additional \$20,000. being added to the COA budget for the new COA Position. He spoke about concerns from Selectmen Naff regarding doubling the amendments for certain eligible town property owners. He also held a discussion regarding a gift of a player piano.

OLD BUSINESS:

Elder Services of Worcester/Nutrition Program – Ms. Peltier reported that home care visit were going up.

Intergenerational Programs/Friendly Visitor - Ms. O'Connor reported that we are still offering “Helping Hands” for snow shoveling. Ms. Fitzgerald is making friendly visitor calls to all those who have attended programs at the center to see how they are doing. We still have an on-going program with Worcester State Univ. The only problem is currently the only classes they are

offering are in Spanish and Vietnamese. We are hoping English classes will be offered in the spring. We still have use of the 4 chrome books that were given to us.

Elder Service Work-off Program – Ms. O'Connor reported that this program has been extremely busy with requests from the Town Clerk for early voting and mailings.

Aging and Dementia Friendly Community Report: Ms. Persiani reported that she would like to schedule a meeting of this sub-committee via Zoom in December. She will contract all the members.

NEW BUSINESS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

Covid-19 update: Ms. O'Connor explained that we are open to the public by appointment only. We are following the rules that set by the Board of Health

An up-date was given regarding the new Housing project that will have 197 units. At present, there are no plans for this project to offer any units at affordable rates for the elderly.

Christmas events have been cancelled but the Senior Center but we are planning on having the outside garden decorated. We will have the vision board placed in the garden for pictures and we will also have a drive-by gingerbread cookie kit for sale. We will be having a Holiday sweater contest This is being offered by the "Friends" group and prizes will be awarded.

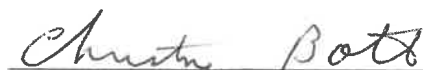
A motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 AM was made by Richard Townsend Seconded by Lee Ayotte. Vote unanimous

Next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 16, 2020 at 7:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. O'Connor

Lee Ayotte



Christine Bott

Kevin Higginbottom

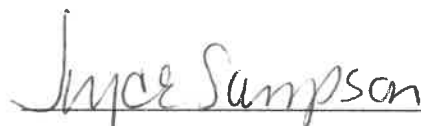
Marie Kosiba



Edna LaPan



Stuart Mulhane



Joyce Sampson

Karen Peltier

Sarahbeth Persiani



Richard Townsend



Stephen Walinsky