

2022 JAN 15 AM 10:06

MILLBURY, MASS.

Minutes

Millbury Council on Aging Board of Directors

Date: Wednesday December 15th at 7:30am

Present: Stephen Walinsky, Richard Townsend, Stuart Mulhane, Kevin Higginbottom, Sarahbeth Persiani, Tom Weeks (Friends Transportation Coordinator), Kendra Faldetta (Acting Director), Julieanne Fitzgerald (Outreach Worker) and Sean Hendricks (Town Manager)

Vouchers:

No vouchers were signed at this meeting. There was an agreement that board members would come weekly to the senior center to review and sign all vouchers. Moving forward, 3 signatures are needed for voucher approval. The day decided was Wednesdays.

Minutes:

An amendment was made to the November minutes, that the Gift account set up by the town was to receive money not only for the purchase of food for the food pantry, but to encompass all donations made to the Town of Millbury at the Senior Center.

A motion to accept the minutes as amended was made by Stuart Mulhane , and seconded by Rick Townsend. Vote: Unanimous

Correspondence:

The application for the Formula Grant was received and is due on January 31st, 2022.

Standing Reports:

- A. Budget and Finance: The budget is due to the town, and Ms.Faldetta told board members if they wanted to review the budget they could make an appointment to sit with her before its due.
- B. Personnel: No report.
- C. Nominating: There was discussion to reduce the number of members of the COA Board from the 11 in the current charter. After discussion, it was agreed that a 7 member board might be more efficient. A motion was made be by Stuart Mulhane and seconded by Rick Townsend. Passed unanimously. Sean Hendricks will pass the motion along to the charter review board.
- D. Legislative: Monies from the 2021-2022 Formula Grant have not yet been received. The application has come out for the 2022-2023 fiscal year and is due on January 31st to the Executive Office of Elder Affairs.
- E. Senior Center Usage: Stephen Walinsky provided Kendra Faldetta and Sean Hendricks with the restrictive policies and application form for use of the building by outside interests. Adherence to the policies and application approval by the Board will be the policy going forward.
- F. Building Maintenance/ Equipment: The light above the parking lot has been replaced.

Directors Report: Kendra Faldetta provided a written report which included an activity summary for Nov, Dec and Jan. attached and made a part of these minutes.

Stephen Walinsky asked about intergenerational programs, Kendra Faldetta said that she was in communication with MHS about having students come to the COA for technology lessons once weekly. Kendra Faldetta also informed the board she is in communication with BVT about having their cosmetology students visit the COA.

Tom Weeks asked for the return of Friends of the Millbury Seniors funds that were removed from the Senior Center or were mailed specifically to the Friends. Steve Walinsky produced a monthly budget report from the finance director with a supplement that apparently recorded those monies as being deposited in the COA revolving account. Mr. Hendricks agreed that he would put Mr. Weeks in contact with the finance director to negotiate the return of monies that are the property of the Friends.

Chairman's Report: Stephen Walinsky stated he had nothing to report.

New Business: Stephen Walinsky mentioned that support of the Friends was essential to the continuation of services to the elders and others in need. The transportation program provided by the Friends has seen a diminished level of cooperation by Senior Center staff. While transportation is provided at an insignificant cost to the Town, the understanding for many years is that the Town will provide "in kind" assistance and co-operation by its employees in lieu of direct financing.. Sean Hendricks assured the Board that the town is more than willing to cooperate but that there needs to be a better understanding of the finances.

Sarahbeth proposed a new newsletter format, and was informed that Kendra Faldetta has been in contact with several local and corporate printing agencies to make the newsletter more senior citizen friendly. Mr. Townsend suggested contacting Ullman Printing on Greenwood Street as they have done some work for the COA in the past. Continued efforts will be made to make adjustments, such as increasing font size and accessibility.

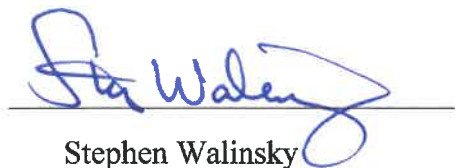
Other Business: There was no other business.

Next Board Meeting: January 19th 2022, at 7:30am.

Adjournment: 8:49am.



Kevin Higginbottom



Stephen Walinsky



Richard Townsend



Sarahbeth Persiani



Stuart Mulhane

Acting Director's Correspondence

November and December, 2021

In the month of November we hosted Fallon/Blue Cross/Blue Shield to discuss Medicare insurance plans. In addition, Kaye Peltier, our Shine Counselor, has been instrumental with assisting approximately 25 seniors via Zoom in the conference room. The use of our technology has helped many seniors get the answers they need.

We were able to assist 23 families with their thanksgiving meals thanks to donations.

The Food Pantry received many donations from both Community organizations and individuals. Our special thanks go to:

Twins for Kids	Seth Moore (BVT High school)
Distant Thunder Motorcycle Club	First Congregational Church
Jen Jackson	St. Charles Hotel
Knights of Columbus	Lions Club
Kevin from LaMachia Realty	Anonymous donations totaling \$ 1,930.00
Millbury High School	

The Memory Café was hosted By BVT Student Ally Johnson. She baked fall cookies and demonstrated how to decorate the cookies with the participants. Everyone loved the Cookies and they took them home to share for the Thanksgiving holiday. Julie Fitzgerald also continues with the visiting memory café and visits approximately 15 people/families each month.

We also had holiday gift bags, totaling 28, donated by Fallon insurance and these will go to the people at our next Memory Café as well as people Julie visits at their homes.

We continue to assist people with obtaining appointments for the Covid booster vaccines.

December

We are offering to wrap people's holiday gifts- any senior can reach out and we will do what we can do to help them.

We had a donation of 50 winter coats the Sheriff's office and we have been calling people that we know could use a new coat. This has been shared on our Facebook page. We also have been calling people that use our food pantry.

We are happy to announce we have a new yoga instructor named Jean Gillis. She has lots of experience and was recommended by the Northborough Senior Center. Her first class will be

Thursday, December 16th and we have 16 people signed up for this class. This class will be offered every Thursday from 9-10 A.M.

Our December Memory Café will take place on December 21, and we are making holiday ornaments.

The Holiday party went over extremely well. We had live music by Matt Brodeur, games, and prizes. It was fun to watch people vote for the ugliest sweater. Many people stated they enjoyed the party and can't wait for another. We had 45 in attendance and the pictures are on Facebook.

Safety

We ordered an AED Case and it will be placed in the Dining Room above the fire extinguisher. We also ordered a First aid Kit that will be attached to the wall. It will be visible for all to see. In addition we are waiting to hear from about a safety class that was recommended by the Fire Dept. Staff will be AED certified and CPR certified.

January

We are hosting a volunteer brunch on January 10 from 8:30-10:00 A.M. We have invited 70 volunteers. We are pricing caterers now.

New classes/activities

Fuel Assistance- Worcester Community Action Council visited and they were here all day on 12/14/2021 to assist seniors with fuel assistance applications.

A Fraud Prevention Class is scheduled for January 6, 2022 here at the Millbury COA.

Senator Moore or a representative will be here once a month to meet with seniors that have questions or concerns starting in January. I am waiting for a schedule also from **Robert Frost**.

Technology Class-I am in contact with the principal of MHS and we are working to find students to come to the COA once a week to teach/ assist with technology.

I am looking to add a **Zumba** instructor as well.

We have hired Susan Finnie for the open clerk's position; she will begin here at the COA as soon as the administrative process is complete. She has ample technological and clerical experience. We interviewed four people for the position, and reviewed six resumes. She was the strongest choice, and we look forward to having her begin.

I am working on completing the COA Budget for the next year, if this is something you are interested in helping with please email me at ASAP kfaldetta@townofmillbury.net and we can make an appointment to go over it.

Thank you for all your support!



Kendra Faldetta

COUNCIL ON AGING STATS November 2021

	Exer	Cards	Crafts	Bing Aft	Food # Family	Food # People	Outreach	Staywell	Cong	MOW	Telep Stats	Bowl
11/1/2021	15	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	8	98	47	2
11/2/2021	8	9	0	0	1	2	5	7	16	98	52	0
11/3/2021	0	11	8	27	2	3	4	0	25	98	43	0
11/4/2021	0	8	0	0	0	0	3	0	14	98	46	0
11/5/2021	12	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	6	98	39	0
11/8/2021	16	13	0	0	0	0	6	0	7	98	44	2
11/9/2021	10	10	0	0	1	1	0	5	8	98	45	0
11/10/2021	0	8	8	28	1	2	3	0	29	98	50	0
11/11/2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11/12/2021	15	8	0	0	0	0	0	0	12	98	32	0
11/15/2021	10	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	7	98	51	2
11/16/2021	9	12	0	0	0	0	5	6	11	98	42	0
11/17/2021	0	8	9	23	0	0	7	0	12	98	46	0
11/18/2021	0	8	0	0	2	4	5	0	7	98	39	0
11/19/2021	15	9	0	0	2	2	0	0	10	98	37	0
11/22/2021	13	14	0	0	0	0	2	0	9	98	48	2
11/23/2021	13	10	0	0	26	52	4	5	27	98	39	0
11/24/2021	0	9	9	25	1	4	4	0	14	98	42	0
11/25/2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
11/26/2021	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	98	0	0
11/29/2021		16	0	0	1	6	0	0	8	98	43	2
11/30/2021		0	0	0	0	0	6	3	27	98	49	0
Nov Totals	136	189	34	103	37	76	54	26	257	1960	834	8
	Exer	Cards	Crafts	Bing Aft	Food # Family	Food # People	Outreach	Staywell	Cong	MOW	Telep Stats	Bowl