

Minutes from the Groton Council on Aging Board Meeting

December 4, 2015

Members Present: Maydelle Gamester, Marie Melican, Gail Chalmers, Ellen Baxendale, George Faircloth, Richard Marton, Charlotte Carkin

Staff Present: Kathy Shelp, Kathy Santiago, Stacey Shepard Jones

Open Meeting: Meeting called to order by Maydelle Gamester at 11:15 am

Minutes: November minutes presented by Board Secretary, Gail Chalmers. Minutes were reviewed and a motion to accept was called by Maydelle Gamester, 2nd by Ellen Baxendale. All unanimous approval accepted.

Annual Report: The Council on Aging Annual Report which was unveiled to the Town of Groton Selectmen on Monday, November 16 was presented by Gail Chalmers.

Treasurer's Report: George Faircloth presented the COA November 2015 Expense Summary was reviewed by the board and Director Shelp.

Motion to Accept was called by Ellen Baxendale, 2nd by Marie Melican. All unanimous approval accepted.

Stacey Shepard-Jones- Outreach Coordinator

We were very busy with calls/and appointments for the SHINE Counselor for Medicare's Open Enrollment, which ends December 7. To date, she had met with 13 clients here, since the Medicare presentation on November 6.

I helped 2 clients with fuel assistance applications.

We only have one volunteer reading to students at the Florence Roche School. The librarian had no other slots available, due to so many parent volunteers this year. Ann Simeone, the librarian, will let me know if additional times open up.

Marion and I did a craft at Petapawag Place's Senior Housing, but only had 2 residents sign up. It's still good to have the other residents see us there and become more familiar with the Senior Center and its staff.

I will be going with Sharon Fata, the Town Nurse, on home visits for Groton senior residents from this point on. It's a good opportunity for me to meet clients that don't come to the Senior Center and let them know about the services/programs we offer and try and establish a rapport with them. Sharon and I made a visit to two clients Montachusett referred to us. The clients would not let us in.

I will also be going with the Fire Department when they inspect/install smoke/carbon monoxide detectors. This, again, gives me the opportunity to meet senior residents and let them know about our services and programs.

The Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church donated 8 holiday baskets. Karen Tuomi is donating an additional 10 baskets. The baskets will be distributed to those in need

Kathy Santiago-Activities/Volunteer Coordinator:

Tech Assistance Class- 19 attended, requests for more classes

Veterans Breakfast- Thursday's working well. December's is on a Monday because Nashoba Tech is cooking

Nashoba Tech and Women's Club Lunches- are going well. They were both thrilled with the new stoves and as a result food was hot 😊

Entertainment for the lunches- The Comeback Kids and Honkey-tonk piano received great feedback

Focus on Foot care- going well people commenting on the extra time and massages

Talk with Tom- Always lively!

Book Club- Out of control!

Exercise programs including Yoga, Tai-Chi, and Strength Training- going well, high attendance

Painting- consistent

Garden club- still meeting (for socialization) they enjoy each other

Writing Class- Still going strong

Cards and Mahjong- Consistent, new interest in Mahjong

Pizza & Movie-38 attended

Art Matters- 12 attended, less than we anticipated however the feedback was great

Up Coming:

Jay Darrin Trip to Blithewold Mansion in Bristol RI December 11

Noon Year's December 31

MOW -we lost a driver on Mondays but another driver took it.

Kathy Shelp: Director

The town has a purchase card that is available for us to use..

Three different grants have been received. They are from: The Groton Cultural Program and Friends of Nashoba Medical Center and CHNA9 serving North Central MA.

The Gift Account Policy was discussed. The Director will present a policy to the board for their approval at the February meeting.

The COA will ask the Finance Committee for money from the reserve fund to purchase a new dishwasher. The current machine does not reach temperatures mandated by the health department.

The proposed Council on Aging FY17 Budget was present and reviewed.

Motion to accept Directors/Outreach/Activities report by Marie Melican, 2nd by George Faircloth, unanimous approval accepted.

Next Board of Directors meeting Monday, February 1, 2016 at 9:30

Motion to close the meeting 12:30 was made by Maydelle Gamester, 2nd by Gail Chalmers. All unanimous approval accepted.

Respectfully Submitted by

Gail M. Chalmers

Secretary

Groton Council of Aging

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