

Minutes from the Groton Council On Aging
Board Meeting
July 13, 2020

Members Present: Rich Marton, Paula Martin, Jean Sheedy, Judy Palumbo O'Brien, Dottie Zales, Therese Keoseian, Mihran Keoseian, Martena Gilbert, Helen Sienkiewicz

Staff Present: Kathy Shelp, Stacey Shepard Jones
Rich opened the meeting, via Zoom, at 1:01 p.m.

We welcomed new members to the Board, so we all introduced ourselves to each other.

Minutes: Kathy read the minutes from the June 1 meeting, as we all did not have copies. A motion to accept was made by Mihran, 2nd by Jean. All unanimous approval accepted.

Director's Report: Procedures for signing up for classes and events at The Center have started. It is somewhat labor intensive, but necessary because of contact tracing. Jude is working on developing a procedure to sign up folks, for consecutive weeks, in an easier way.

Reese, at Town Hall, is working on a program for folks to sign up on-line.

Thérèse asked about activity for all programs. The writing class is experiencing trouble on Zoom. Movies have been at half capacity. Bone Builders class is almost full. Rich asked if all sign-ups are done manually. In the first week of July, 75 people visited The Center, last year it was 162.

Pickle Ball participation has increased. Van rides for the month of February was 260, in April it was 36. Now in July it is 78 so far, with more to come.

Kathy stated that there are a lot of unknowns, going forward, about serving food at The Center. Jean asked about any thoughts on serving food on a take-out basis. Perhaps, but we are short on staff for a while. Mihran questioned any alternative ideas on serving food. There are many complications to serve food here in Groton.

Thérèse asked who prepared the food for the Gay Nineties celebration. It was box lunches from the Country Butcher. We might serve pizza at the movies.

Kathy is a member of the Mass. Senior Contact Tracing Team. She has spoken to the Nashoba Valley Health Department. They do not believe that we will be

getting many requests for a contact tracing incident. Rich asked how would that apply in the van.

There is a new initiative about senior isolation. Diane Amaral is working on a logo.

Outreach Report: Now is a good time to catch up on outreach info. Stacey asked for help with reviewing the two elder abuse and caregiver abuse booklets. Judy and Helen will help out. The Catholic Heart Program was cancelled this summer in Groton, because the students were not able to stay at Lawrence Academy. Farmers Market coupons are available. Mihran asked Stacey if she noticed any problems with anyone in town who needed help. There are 20 to 30 folks who needed help to do their food shopping.

School Committee Report: Marlana reported that there could be a \$60.00 a month increase in cost for the Florence Roche construction. It has been a daunting task to keep the costs down. There is a new plan for the track to be removed.

There is a large task force working on school opening. •3•

There will be no meals served in the cafeteria. The town must come up with three different plans for teaching. The Select Board will meet tonight to discuss finances. Mark Haddad has been receptive. Mihran has offered his help to Martena and the School Committee.

Mihran mentioned another initiative concerning the outside grounds at the Center. We need a lead remediation removal at the bunker out front.

Hopefully, there will be a question at Fall Town Meeting to obtain the cost going forward. He asked if anyone knew of someone to do landscape design work for pro bono.

Next meeting will be September 21 at 1:00pm.

Motion to accept Director's and Staff reports was made Paula, 2nd by Jean. All unanimous approval accepted.

Motion to adjourn was made by Paula, 2nd by Jean. All unanimous approval accepted.

Respectfully Submitted by
Helen Siemkiewicz,
Secretary

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