COA Board Minutes February 10, 2025

Location: The Groton Center

Time: 2 P. M.

Board Member in attendance: Pascal Miller, Chair; Tony Serge, Vice Chair; Nicole Sarvela, Director; Harris McWade; Michelle Collette; Dottie Zale; Lois Young; Judy Palumbo; Carole Carter.

Special Guests: Peter Cunningham; Tom Pistarino,

Open Meeting: The meeting officially started at 2:02 P.M. by Pascal Miller

Review of January 13, 2025, minutes. Minutes reviewed and approved. Pascal Miller abstained from voting.

Friends of Groton Elders: Update on tri-folders; Valentine’s Day luncheon; possible funding for upcoming events.

Town Charter reviewed every ten years; Park Commissioner be appointed, not elected; possible elimination of the personnel board as most town employees are now represented by a union or bargaining unit. The committee will have a public hearing and make decisions on which changes to bring forward at the annual town meeting.

Director’s Report: Nicole reported on the senior tax worker placements; uptick in fitness center memberships; arrival of new van; caregiver support initiative and monthly breakfasts; new resource guide; upcoming events such as French language classes and a trip to New England Film Studios. Advertising volunteer opportunities in the local paper and church newsletters.

Squanacook Sportsmen’s Club: State is expected to conduct further testing, but no word has been received yet.

COA luncheon discussion: 46 attendees, 6 Board Members.

Action Items from COA Board Luncheon 1/22/25

Did not know the COA Board existed or its purpose. Should have a luncheon program every 6/9 months to hear feedback and questions from COA members.

Need to understand in more detail/structure the COA Outreach Programs. Should there be a luncheon program?

How to proactively make suggestions/feedback to the COA Board? Have a COA Board feedback question box displayed in the lobby with pre-designed feedback/suggestion cards.

Does the van pick up or other than COA functions? Yes, but how requested?

Need more Bone Building teachers. Very popular with a long waiting list.

Find a way to let the COA members know the date and time of COA Board Meetings so they can attend. Should an email be sent to COA Members?

Th ice cream truck was very popular. Will this continue?

Did not know the Town Government functions. Is there a need for a luncheon program?

Liked the trips that are offered and would like to make suggestions on other trips. How?

Need new cribbage boards.

Need a coat rack in the fitness center.

Meeting adjourned a t3:34 P. M.