

Ashland Council on Aging

Meeting Minutes for April 7, 2022

Called to order at 10:03 a.m.

Attendees:

Board Members

Alexis Christopher

Fran Blake

Sara Perkett

Lisa Uglialoro

Pat McHale

Jean Delouchry

Guests:

Joanne Duffy (Community Center Director)

Ana Vladimirov (Program & Volunteer Coordinator)

Candi Wilson (Outreach Coordinator)

Candace Avery (Ashland Housing)

Richard Maher (Ashland Housing)

Momina Haidri (rep for Sen. Spilka)

Jack Patrick Lewis

Mission Statement: read by Jean Delouchry

Citizen Participation:

1. Steve Mitchell for Select Board

- 4/6 Select Board meeting reviewed budget line by line for Town Meeting Warrant
- Police Chief search in progress; 1-2 weeks away (background checks); both candidates well-qualified
 - i. Lieutenant in Natick
 - ii. Chief in Shirley
- Monday had a meeting with Select Board, ZBA, Planning Board and Affordable Housing Trust regarding the Inclusionary Zoning bylaw; the Select Board is aware and engaged

Secretary's Minutes:

Sara moved to approve the March 2022 minutes. Jean seconded the motion.

Approved 6-0-0.

Director's Report:

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Joanne reviewed the Director's Report.

- People being served now are younger, new participants
- Audiology = cleaning, hearing aids
- Parkinson's boxing is very popular; FCOA is funding on top of another small donation
- Need to restart the Caregiver Support Group
- New Zoom programs from Ana are great!
- Programs are thanks to collaboration with FCOA and FAPL
- Restarting the Clocktown Memory Café; partnering with Alzheimer's organization; Entertainment = approx. \$225; seeking local sponsors
- Open House expects around 120 people and will be from 12-3(or so); looking at possibly May 4; can advertise with flyers, newsletter, word of mouth, Town Manager newsletter, social media and e-blasts.
- Grab and Go Produce program from BayPath could require a lot of volunteers and organization; Joanne will get more information.

Fran made a motion to approve the Director's Report, Sara seconded. The motion was approved 6-0-0.

Old Business:

1. Sara discussed plans with WACA for 3-4 minute ad spots
 - a. Sara and Ed B. met with Allison to update the PSA announcements
 - b. Need content
 - c. Need willing participants for voiceovers
 - d. Lisa offered to help as needed
 - e. Steve M. mentioned the Economic Development videos; Lisa will forward
 - f. Need voices and ideas
2. FCOA: see attachment; challenges of relationship with FCOA were discussed; no changes for now; FCOA next meeting on 4/14 at noon.
3. Senior housing: last meeting Pat asked questions about residents at the Ledges and President's Row that don't have the ability to deal with issues (especially financial), many of whom are single, female residents that need assistance with everyday operational things (bill questions, cable help, etc.).

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- a. Jack Patrick Lewis discussed ways his office (and other state offices) could help, and other issues that were either corporate, local or federal that they couldn't really help with. Their offices can step in and make the right connections. Office of Rep. Katherine Clark and her assistant Jay Higgins (Ashland resident) can be helpful too. Jim McGovern will be taking over on January 1, 2023. They will try to advocate but can't make changes to things over which they have no oversight.
- b. The Housing Authority meets on the 4th Tuesday of the month and is fully engaged in helping their residents, they even have social workers on staff.
- c. Community Center staff is dealing with as many of these requests as they can, but more time is needed. May need to request funding for more staff time.

New Business:

1. Alexis arranged for a table at the Farmer's Market thanks to Jeanne Walker, on 9/3/22 from 9am-1pm. Will have new brochures and newsletters available.
2. The COA will have a table at the Senior Center Open House.

Around the Table:

1. Alexis mentioned that the website has the wrong term-end date for the vacant position followed by a short discussion about term limits.

Adjournment:

Motion to adjourn made by Sara, Pat seconded. 6-0-0

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Submitted by Secretary, Lisa Uglialoro

Documents distributed:

March 2022 minutes

Director's Report

Email regarding Grab & Go Produce

Clocktown Memory Cafe flyer

Open House sample budget