

Kingston Council on Aging
Secretary Report
Advisory Board Meeting
October 11, 2022
(approved by vote at meeting on 11/8/22)

Meeting was called to order at 11:30

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Thank you, PAC TV,

Board Members present, Joseph Favaloro - Chairman, Caty Starr - Secretary, Donna Weinberg, Wes Meiggs, Maureen Elwood, Austin Sennett

Also Present: Marybeth Lawton- COA Director

Open Forum

In relation to our last meeting, Austin asked for some clarity regarding the veterans and other groups using the kitchen when renting it. Marybeth said she will be updating the document for the Board's review and approval in November.

Secretary Report - A motion to accept the September Secretary's report was made by Maureen and seconded by Austin. All in favor.

Chairman's Report - Joe Favaloro presented his report which included examples of "shrinkflation" and "skimpflation," as well as, a checklist to maintain good health.

Directors Report:

- Marybeth proposed a unilateral price increase for Thursday lunches. This would impact all seniors, regardless of if they are Kingston residents or come from other towns. She suggested using a new ticket system to allow for clarity of who in the room was on the list and has paid and who has not paid to attend. There was some discussion around how things work now and some problems that currently exist, and how to monitor people who do not sign up in advance. Joe made a motion to accept the price increase from \$3 to \$4 for all attendees. Motion was seconded by Maureen. All in favor.
- Marybeth mentioned that she's done a budget check and is going to use money that is available to purchase pieces of exercise equipment with money left over from a grant. She will also be purchasing a dishwasher for serve safe requirements.
- We were presented with the updated Pet Policy and Code of Conduct documents. Austin made a motion to accept both documents. Motion was seconded by Maureen. All in favor.
- During inclement weather, the decision to open the building is controlled by the Town Administrator. Meals on Wheels and Gatra are third parties suppliers which control their own policies relating to inclement weather. Marybeth will find out who's responsibility it is to staff the building when it's being used as a warming center.

- Marybeth introduced the Age and Dementia Friendly Initiative to us and is requesting funding to creation of a survey to understand what needs are missing in town. The cost of the survey is approximately \$25,000 but paid for by the State through Compact dollars. There was a suggestion to have someone from the Initiative to join our next meeting, and all were in support of this.
- Marybeth has a new hire for Transportation. Her name is Kelsey and she will be starting on 11/7. There will be a formal introduction to Kelsey at our December meeting.
- Marybeth has asked for a quote from Shiretown Glass to add glass to the three-season room making it more useful overall. The quote came in at \$100,000 which includes adding heat and air conditioning to that space. She is drafting a proposal for the funds to come from the Capital Improvements section of the Town's budget.

Board of Health Update - Dennis Randall indicated that there has been a staff change within the Board of Health. Marybeth has also requested that the BOH nurse, Leanne, have her presence at the COA increased from 1.5 hours bi-weekly (3 hours per month), increased to 2 hours per week (totaling 8 hours per month). There is also ongoing communication regarding the flu and covid vaccinations.

Discussion circled back to Joyce in the kitchen and the desire to increase her salaried hours per week. Discussed how much personal time Joyce is using to accomplish tasks for the COA that she is not being compensated for.

Fire Prevention Project - the first presentation will be on 10/24 and will be discussing people's concerns regarding fire prevention in general.

There was an announcement that Tim Cruz, candidate for Plymouth District Attorney, will be presenting at the next luncheon.

Remembered - Brandon Coarr, son of the former Thursday bingo caller, Mary Carey.

Suggestion/Comment Box was empty.

Motion to Adjoin was made by Caty and seconded by Wes. All in Favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Caty Starr, Secretary

Next meeting will be November 8, 2022 @ 11:30 at COA Senior Center and/or ZOOM