

Kingston Council on Aging
Secretary Report
Advisory Board Meeting
December 13, 2022
(approved by vote at meeting on 1/10/23)

Meeting was called to order at 11:30

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Thank you, PAC TV,

Board Members present, Austin Sennett Vice Chairman, Donna Weinberg, Wes Meiggs, Joan Hutchinson, Caty Starr Secretary

Also Present: Marybeth Lawton- COA Director and Dennis Randall - Board of Health representative, Joanne Boudreau - Animal Control Officer

Open Forum - Austin read Dennis Randall's Board of Health report

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

Chairman's Report - Austin commented that he instead of reading Joe's entire report, he would like it printed and put at the front desk for everyone to read and have access to. Austin then read the scam section of Joe's report.

Directors Report - Marybeth gave an update regarding Gatra and indicated that the changes are working well. Van drivers are getting appropriate breaks and the driving schedules are much more succinct now. There has been little to no need to the van drivers on Tuesday nights, therefore, Marybeth will be requesting to switch their hours of availability from Tuesday night to Friday afternoons until 4:30pm. Caty made a motion to support Marybeth in requesting this change of Gatra. The motion was seconded by Joan. All in favor.

Dog Policy - Joanna Boudreau spoke in favor of the pet friendly policy, citing many health benefits of having a pet including giving seniors a purpose, especially when living alone. She made the following suggestions: all dogs should be spayed or neutered; all dogs must be over the age of 6 months; there should be an evaluation done of each dog by the dog officer (to be conducted at the Kingston Animal Control office, when convenient for them; there should be a waiver of liability form signed by the dog owner; instances of breakage of skin need to be reported to the animal control officer.

By-Laws update - there was discussion around why and what changes Marybeth suggests are made based on the required By-Laws that other municipalities are using. Marybeth will make the revisions and have for our January meeting. After that, it will then go to the Board of Selectmen for review/approval.

Thanksgiving Appreciation lunch - special thanks to the Fire Department and Melissa at Town Hall, Marybeth, and all of the kitchen staff and volunteers. The lunch was attended by 125 people.

Special thanks to the COA staff for the wonderful jobs they have done all year long. Wishes for a Merry Christmas.

Remembered: Burt Ashford, Cindy Dunn, and Diane Poirier, the former Assistant Town Clerk

Suggestion/Comment Box - none

Next meeting will be January 10, 2023 @ 11:30 at COA Senior Center and/or ZOOM

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

Respectfully submitted,
Caty Starr, Secretary