

COUNCIL ON AGING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

November 14, 2023

The meeting was called or order at the Kingston Senior Center, and broadcast on PAC TV, with Zoom available for those unable to attend the meeting.

Thank you to PAC TV. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present: Caty Starr – Chairman, Donna Weinberg – Vice Chair, Joan Hutchison – Secretary, Maureen Elwood, Mary Harriman, Mary Hayes, Kathy Studley.

Others Present: Mary Beth Lawton – COA Director

Announcements: There is an open position on the Old Colony Elder Services Board of Directors. Meals on Wheels volunteers are needed for Friday mornings.

Secretaries Report: A motion to accept the Report was made by Maureen Elwood and seconded by Joan Hutchison, accepted by all.

Open Forum: No one spoke

New Business: Mary Harriman was welcomed to the Board, approved by the BOS. And the Update of the By-Laws was also approved.

Directors Report:

COA Café Mary Beth updated the group on the “Café”. There were 399 meals served in October. A 75% increase over September. There was a brief discussion regarding the utensils and plates used at the meals and she explained the reasons for what is now being used. The Café is open to Seniors and guests. There has been many new, both male and female people coming. The Pledge of Allegiance was reinstated last Thursday.

Mary Beth & Holly are looking into a Birthday data base to include all members of the center.

BOS Meeting: The COA Advisory Board has been invited to attend the November 21st BOS meeting at 6pm regarding the Café.

Needlers: Kathy Studley updated the group on their projects. Beside their projects of knitting scarfs, lap robes for vets, caps for new borns, they recently have held two yard sales. Profit from the first sale went to “Friends of COA”, and the second one to the “Father Bills”.

Center Outside Groups Use: MaryBeth spoke about the appropriate use of the center. It can be used after regular hours by obtaining a packet from her and filling out the Application.

Thanksgiving Lunch: Reservations for 125 has been received and confirmed.

Volunteers: Mary Beth is in the process of updating the volunteer list to include the tax write off volunteers that work over 55 hrs. She gave a brief synopsis of the criteria. Volunteer Recognition will take place in April 2024.

Accreditation Process: Information for membership can be found on line from the National Council on Aging in order find process material.

Café Names: Mary Beth distributed a list of suggested names for the Café. After all reviewed the list it was agreed to name the café, “Café Evergreen”.

PAC-TV: Mary Beth is working with PAC-TV to record classes for Seniors when they are not able to attend due to inclement weather.

Nurse Services: In addition to the regular scheduled nurse services, Pat Ianfrate will do screening to include Cholesterol and High Blood Pressure.

Bocci Court: Approval for outdoor court was turned down by the Conservation Commission. The new plan is to install a new cover over the brick floor in the patio room, and play there.

Email Addresses:

Mary Beth is planning a group box address so the Advisory Board can receive emails.

Computer skills: Looking for a person with computer skills, that can help clean up Senior center program with 4,843 registered.

Old Business:

Office hours: for Advisory Board members to meet with the public was discussed. It was agreed that we would meet from 10:30 to 11:00am prior to the regular monthly Board meeting held on the 2nd Tuesday of each month at the Senior Center.

Kathy Studley & Donna Weinburg – December 12th

Caty Starr & Mary Hayes - January 9th

Joan Hutchison & Mary Harriman – February 13th

Liasons: Mary Hayes and Kathy Studley have agreed to attend Friends of COA group meetings.

The next scheduled Advisory Board meeting is December 12th at the Kingston Senior Center. This meeting was adjourned at 11:45am with a motion from Joan Hutchison and seconded by Mary Hayes. Approved by all.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Hutchison