



Town of Wakefield

Director

Karen Burke

Board Members

Flo Calore
Christina Dello Croce
Elizabeth Ellis
Maureen Hickey
Susan Jepson
Suzanne Powers
Joanne Scouler

Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom

Date: October 12, 2022

Meeting called to order at 6:33 pm by Susan Jepson

Members in attendance: Karen Burke Flo Calore, Christina Dello Croce, Maureen Hickey, Susan Jepson, Joanne Scouler.

Minutes reviewed of September 14, 2022, COA meeting.

Motion to accept minutes made by Maureen Hickey, seconded by Susan Jepson, all in favor to approve minutes as presented.

Financial Report

- Financials reviewed for September
 - No irregularities/questions
- Activity Report
 - Busy September with increased attendance in nearly all activities
 - Total 1016 —includes Gym uses-(42) and transportation-(108 units) and all other center activities: card games, crafts, woodworking, movies.
 - Outreach by Senior Center staff units: 24 and Veteran's office staff 16 units
 - New activities added: Writing Seminar offered by Writer's Room (non-profit org)—15-20 attendees for a 4 week class; 3 new card games; 2 new exercise classes.

Maureen Hickey moved to accept Financial Report Flo Calore seconded, all in favor, approved.

Director's Report

Center Events/Updates

- Shine training has been completed and most all appointments with Shine Rep filled

- LEO (Fuel Assistance program coming soon, rep will be at Senior Center to assist attendees to sign up.
- Eat local –Oct 12 Sabatino’s Restaurant donated luncheon, Voke school made a cake. 3 Town Councilors attended (Bob Vincent, Jonathan Chines, Ed Dombrowski) 27 attendees. The 3 Councilors were in deep conversation throughout the event with the attendees. Karen to outreach to the Council members for feedback
- State Sen Jason Lewis hosting an event at Wakefield Sr Center for Wakefield and Stoneham Seniors on 10/27—he will review the Ballot questions.
- On-going interaction with the new Social Worker from Board of Health Jason Stone with Sr Center Staff around needs of elders in town.
- 12/7—Holiday Party in planning stages
- Steve Maio, Town Administrator, has approved purchase of new exercise equipment-has been ordered
- Questions posed re: release of liability form for class attendees and users of equipment—Karen to review and consult with Town Depts; also question posed around photos used in social media, newspaper, etc and release or approval.
- Library furniture on order
- Dave Mangan, Veteran’s Office made Honor Flight trip to DC with 14 Wakefield Vets -plan to have him report on the trip
- Snow Angels program will resume this winter—names will be collected of residents in need of snow shoveling assistance by the Youth Council volunteers
- Director notes the vibrancy and high activity of the Senior Center in recent weeks!

Maureen Hickey moved to accept Director’s Report, Flo Calore seconded, all in favor, approved.

Strategic Planning

- Age Friendly—need to take some time to review and consider next steps
- In person strategic planning—preferred, or at least a dedicated meeting for goals -setting for future
- Consider City of Salem’s Age Friendly info—goals, what has been done to date
- Consider planning a separate session for this—in January—
- Hybrid meeting consideration—discussion around this. (Portable camera/mic used at Housing Board successfully at a recent meeting Steve Maio would have to sign off on this
- Christina Dello Croce offered to work with Director on where we go from here, “brain dump”/” wish list” as well as facilitate discussion with Board in January
- Plan for short update by Director in Nov meeting to review any new area—wide Age Friendly initiatives, all members to review Age Friendly Plan for Dec meeting

Other

- Suzanne Powers, COA member has indicated she is unable to continue to serve on COA. Susan Jepson will outreach to her re: resignation, then Town Council can appoint another individual.
- Simple majority (4 of 7 members) needed for quorum

Motion to adjourn made by Maureen Hickey, seconded by Flo Calore, all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7: 24 pm

Next Meetings: Nov 9, December 14.

Respectfully submitted

Flo Calore