



TOWN OF WAKEFIELD

COUNCIL ON AGING

Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom

Date: February 8, 2023

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 6:38 pm by Susan Jepson

Members in attendance: Karen Burke, Susan Jepson, Flo Calore, Joanne Scouler, Maureen Hickey

2. Public Comment

No members of public in attendance

3. Approval of Minutes

Motion to accept minutes of November 9, 2022 made by Maureen Hickey, seconded by Joanne Scouler, all in favor to approve minutes as presented.

Note there was not a quorum for December 14, 2022 meeting.

4. Financial Report

- Finances are on track for year-end spending. Grant funding allocated to Town deposited for November 2023.
- Grant funds are from MA EOE (Executive Office of Elder Affairs). Wakefield receives \$12 per person over age 60 based on 2020 census data.
 - There are approximately 7000 seniors in Wakefield, an increase from previous census data.

Financial Report accepted: Motion by Susan Jepson, seconded by Maureen Hickey, all in favor, approved.

5. Director's Report

- An increase in Senior Center Budget has been proposed and presented to Town Council –it includes a 7% increase for food expenses and an increase in hours for van driver. Current staffing is 32 hours per week, proposal for an increase to 46 hours per week (for 3 drivers).
- Activity attendance remained high in December and November despite Holiday closures.
- Senior Center Staff (including Director) answer on average 30 phone calls per day – these include inquiries about classes, requests for ride/pick up, Shine appointments, fuel assistance.
- Director may consider additional staffing to increase Activity staff hours or add receptionist hours.

Director

Karen Burke

Board Members

Flo Calore

Christine Della Croce

Elizabeth Ellis

Maureen Hickey

Susan Jepson

Joanne Scouler

Town Council

Liaison

Mike McClane



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

6. Age Friendly Action Plan Review

- Review of the domains and key areas for COA to consider for focus:
 - Housing-info programs, small home repairs
 - Transportation-add vehicle
 - Outdoor/Open Space-seek improved walkways (Director is on Open Space Committee)
 - Social participation-new/evaluating existing programming; intergenerational programs
 - Civic participation and employment-Mass Hires (Woburn)
 - Communication and Information -Support and Help-technology/"changing world" support
 - Community Support and Health Services—YMCA, Mystic Valley Elder Services
 - Respect and Social Isolation—intergenerational programs
 - COA will identify some domains from the above for future discussion/development
 - Future events to be considered to address some of the above:
 - Senior Resource Fair
 - Town Hall Event
 - Art/Craft Show (of work done at Sr Center)
 - Survey of over 60 population
- More discussion at future meetings

Motion to adjourn made by Maureen Hickey, seconded by Susan Jepson all in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 7:20 pm

Respectfully submitted
Flo Calore