

Minutes of the Council on Aging Meeting

December 18, 2019 12:30 p.m. Town Hall

Meeting called to order at 12:30 p.m.

Present were: Bruce Bernstein, Chairman, Georgette Kinney, Cory Hines, Chet Delaney, Helen Krancer, Eve Goldberg, Peg Muskrat, Administrative Assistant

Minutes from the November, 2019 COA meeting were approved with corrections.

The December Luncheon and Holiday Party were very successful and very well attended. The food at the Holiday Party was fantastic. Readings by Lesliann Furcht, Nick Keene and Chet Delaney were lovely and well received. Everyone enjoyed singing holiday songs while Sara Keene played the piano. Dinner after at the Inn was great and we will plan to do this next year.

Peg is in charge of the January 8th luncheon. David Katzenstein will be talking about First Aid.

Peg will be inviting Town Officials each month to attend the lunches. Jim Noe, Highway Superintendent, will be invited for January and perhaps Mary Brazie as well. Jim will talk about snow removal on local roads during inclement weather. Juliette Haas, Town Clerk, will attend in February to talk about the voting process and the upcoming busy election year. Juliette will return in April/May to discuss energy audits.

Bruce and Peg are working with Lynn Wolf, from the Elder Affairs Office, to set up a website for the Egremont COA. Grant funding was obtained for this project. Our COA will pay \$18 per year to maintain our license. Because this is a new effort and very much a work in progress, members of the Board offered a variety of suggestions which Bruce and Peg will review with Lynn.

Erin Flynn, the new Programs Coordinator for Simon's Rock Kilpatrick Athletic Center, popped into the meeting in order to make several

announcements. She will be focusing on creating more senior programming at the center and putting an effort into reaching out to seniors in order to achieve greater involvement. Erin announced that the Center will be hosting a week long Open House starting Sunday, January 5th. All programs and classes will be free. A complimentary lunch will be served each day from 1:00 - 2:00. Erin asked the Board to feel free to give her feedback with regard to her efforts as well as to put forth any suggestions to make use of the facility in a creative way.

The COA Budget was passed out. An additional \$400 was added in order to assist Simon's Rock with senior programming costs at the Kilpatrick Athletic Center.

A committee was formed to review the funding for S.B.E.T.C. and its efficiency. Georgette, Cory and Chet plan to meet in January in order to begin the review.

Thea Basis has taken on the task of chairing the Alford COA. She will be attending SAGE/Triad meetings. The Board was very pleased to know that there will be another community COA with which it can engage.

Georgette informed the Board that training for the Ombudsman program is complete and official duties are being assumed. Georgette also announced that she thinks she may have some new recruits for the endeavor. Bruce asked Georgette to make a lunch presentation in order to talk about this effort.

Due to inclement weather, SAGE/Triad had to cancel the Walk Boston Presentation. It will be rescheduled at a later date.

"Sand for Seniors" program is up and running.

Next meeting will be January 15, 2020 at 12:30 at the North Egremont Firehouse.

Meeting adjourned at 1:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Eve Goldberg