

Council on Aging Board of Directors

May 18, 2023

Present: Director Jim Leydan, Chair Sandra Macfadyen, Vice Chair George Shea, Secretary Ellie Tyson, Saul Finestone, Derek Paar, Maryann Squier, Eleanor Stolar, Julia Moulton, Rose Morace, Candace Serafino, Ron Johnson, Judy Yaffe, Select Board Liaison Tom Lachiusa

Guest: Robin Frechette, Earl Godfrey, Bill Moray from FOLOCA, Senior planner PVTA Karen Martin, Stephan Platzer.

I. **Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.

II. **Approval of Minutes:** The April minutes were approved.

III. **Reports:**

Select Board: Tom noted that all articles were passed at the town meeting. A long-range planning for the town will hold a meeting on the 24th at 7:00pm. June 15th the Longmeadow Country Club will have a fireworks display. A wage administration study is coming up. A mobile app for town information is still on going. Annual town election on June 13th, 1 select board member, and 3 school committee members. Marybeth Bergeron has been chosen as Citizen of the Year. George asked about a 30% cut in the budget. Tom said he would check it out and get back to us.

State Representative: Robin noted that representative Ashe secured the following funds in the FY24 house Budget: \$50,000 Rachel's Table; \$75,000 Forest Park Zoo; \$100,000 Springfield symphony orchestra; \$350,000 Basketball Hall of Fame; \$150,000 Westfield State University; \$25,000 East Longmeadow American Legion Post; \$75,000 East Longmeadow Senior Center van. Grants to COA \$750 earmarked for meals on wheels. Guest speaker Karen Martin from PVTA regarding long range planning in Longmeadow. DO we have any thoughts for the housing for senior's projects? Also, housing gaps, where do we see these gaps. There will be a public forum on the 24th at 7:00pm at the center.

Director's: Check the monthly report for the month of April. We request a monthly report on the number of new people signing up. Robin questions the number of people out of town using our pickle ball courts. People from out of town seem to be using it more. The cost is \$2.00 for residents and \$3.00 for non-residents. Maryann noted that in the lunch program no substitutes will now be offered. Could we try soup from the café in the winter, Judy suggested.

Treasurer's: Month of July 1st the revolving account will be going up. Please check your may Treasurer's report for further information.

FOLOCA: There will be 2 programs in July sponsored by FOLOCA. In the fall, we will be suspending the mailing of the voice. You may pick it up at the center. Rose made a motion to bring back the car wash tickets sign, which were on the back of the voice.

George seconded the motion. It was the town manager who made the decision to remove the notice from the voice. Robin stated that a municipality cannot raise funds. Saul recommended that we table the motion until we can look into this.

IV. Old Business:

- a. Medical loan equipment:** We have a storage area for the equipment. Earl Godfrey will deliver and pick up the equipment. JGS is anxious to have the program in place. We will publish it in the July issue of the voice. Rose will be our contact person in the center. A liability waiver will be signed on equipment. We are ready to re-instate this program.
- b. Nutrition Program:** Starting in September we will be charging \$4.00 for the lunches. The cost has not been raised in 11 years.
- c. Newsletter distribution:** In September our newsletter will not be mailed out. They can be picked up at the center, except for meals on wheels. A notice will be put in the voice regarding this change.
- d. Food Pantry coordinator position:** This position will be posted in the next couple of weeks. Hopefully it will be filled by July.
George wondered if all the board had a copy of "A guide for board members". See George if you do not have a copy.

V. New Business:

Karen Martin: Karen Martin, senior planner PVTA, spoke earlier in the meeting.

Nominating committee: The committee consists of Rose Morace, Maryann Squier, and Ellie Tyson. We have nominations from the floor at our September meeting. Saul said try to find someone from the council who has not held a position on the board. Sandy noted that we need a volunteer from the council to be on the board of the long-range planning council. We will discuss this in the fall. Also, in our by-laws it states if you miss three meetings without notification you will be removed from the board. This is in our by-laws.

IV. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 11:17a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Tyson