

Council On Aging Meeting Minutes

Monday January 22, 2024 Colrain Town Office

The meeting was called to order at 1:55 by Chairperson Betty Johnson.

Attendance: Betty Johnson, Kathy Steinem, Kathy Phelps, Valeda Peters, Michelle Hillman, Elaine Stanley, Amy and Richard Herzig, Robbie Murphy (late arrival)

Betty introduced David Greenberg who led a presentation of The Community Preservation Act which enables Massachusetts towns to create a dedicated funding source for community projects.

Secretary's Report:

Michelle made a motion to accept the minutes as distributed, Kathy P. seconded, unanimously approved.

Treasurer's Report:

Donations:

12-26-23 \$111.00 Foot Clinic

Richie made a motion to accept the donations as presented, Amy seconded, unanimously approved.

Bills:

12-26-23 \$810.00 Piper Sagan Foot Clinic (18)

12-29-23 \$2,140.00 Catamount Country Store (Jan. vouchers 107)

1-18-24 \$2,260.00 Pine Hill Orchards (Feb. vouchers 113)

Total \$5,210.00

Richie made a motion to accept the Bills paid, Kathy P. seconded and unanimously approved.

Foot Clinic- Betty can be there to hand out vouchers on 1-23-24 from 9-3. Jonathan Lagreze will take what's left and deliver them.

Old Business:

Vouchers- we have had a great response.

Grant for feasibility study for COA at the Colrain Central School has been filed.

Kevin Fox filed the Grant Application. Betty made a copy for us.

The COA information letter was mailed with the Street Listings.

The Busts- Betty proposed the COA vote to accept the Busts from the Griswold Memorial Library for use at our Senior Center once one is completed.

Discussion ensued.

Robbie offered to set up a meeting with the Library Trustees to discuss options for the Busts.

The meeting would be open to the public.

New Business:

Sand for Seniors to use in Winter. Partner with Heather and Home Depot.

Elaine made a motion to revisit this project next Fall, Kathy P. seconded, unanimously approved.

COA budget!! Lots to discuss!! Two considerations: raising the amount of Town Appropriation \$ and/or changing the amount of Vouchers to \$10 per person.

The \$20,000 budget has been the same since 2012.

Kathy P. made a motion to keep the voucher amount the same in the budget until end of fiscal year June 30th, Elaine seconded, unanimously approved.

Kathy P. made a motion to keep the vouchers at \$20 and ask the Town for \$25,000 in appropriations in the next fiscal year, Michelle seconded, unanimously approved.

Robbie and Kathy S. have a meeting with Age Friendly/Mass in Motion Directors discussing a Grant for \$4,300 on Monday February 5th at 3:00. Report in our February meeting.

Elaine made a motion to adjourn at 3:10, Robbie seconded, unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Steinem