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**Rehoboth Council on Aging
Board of Directors Meeting
@ Gladys L. Hurrell Rehoboth Senior Center
Minutes of December 09, 2020 via ZOOM**

- 1) **Call to order**---7:03 p.m.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3) **Members Present**--- Dr. Bruce Thayer, Neal Harrington, Ron Whittemore, Dr. Robert Lambe, Sue Laverdiere and Linda Sherman
Members Excused--- Charlene Cunha, MaryBeth Moriarty
Guests Present--- Kim Robens
- 4) **Review past months meeting minutes**---Minutes from Jan. 22, 2020 approved- Dr. Thayer 1st motioned and Linda Sherman 2nd the motion.
- 5) **Presentations**--- None
- 6) **Expense Reports**--- Ron W. asked if we had enough in our Gifts & Bequests (G&B) budget to cover any additional costs if there was not enough money from the insurance company regarding the COA Senior Center fire. Could funds be taken out of the G&B account to cover some items lost from the fire, for example furniture, etc... Linda S. stated that funds from the G&B account are for our Seniors and can be used to buy furniture or anything else that would be needed for the Seniors.

Tues. Meals to Go revenue have stopped abruptly because of the COA fire in Sept. and currently have no kitchen to prepare and prep meals at this time. The COA volunteers were previously cooking and prepping meals to go for our Seniors during COVID. Meals were ordered in advance and time slots given to come at a certain time for front drive thru pickups. Volunteers would hand out the packaged meal to their car. This went very well and our Seniors were so happy, it was a big success!
- 7) **Director's Report**---
New Office space- New hub is working out perfectly- we are very grateful. Brad has his own office with a plexiglass safety shield which he uses for prescheduled appointments.
Meals on Wheels- This has continued without any disruption. The Rehoboth American Legion helped us out and let us use their space until we got situated with our new office space. B.E.S.I. also donated coloring books and pencils for the Seniors which was really nice.
Non-medical masks- we have resumed making cotton cloth masks whenever possible to replenish our stock that we previously had for our Seniors who are in need of them. We are currently in need of cotton fabric and elastic to make more masks that are desperately needed during this difficult time.
Bristol County Sheriff's Dept.- Tina from the Sheriff's Dept. had volunteers to stuff holiday stockings filled with essentials for our Meals on Wheels Seniors in need. They were passed out during their meal deliveries.
Vino's Restaurant- donated prepared Thanksgiving meals to-go to give to our Meals on Wheels clients.
COA Budget worksheet FY 21-22- should be available 2nd week of January and can go over at next board meeting.
- 8) **Old Business**---None
- 9) **New Business**--- Ron W. stated that the Town people have been asking why construction for the Senior Center has not taken place yet. There have been no blueprints processed because a better design plan needs to be set in place first. This new design plan would need to be up to code and started from scratch to accommodate this. A sprinkler system with water storage and pumps would be top on the list of these requirements. A lot of planning and architectural output would be needed for this project. A request for proposals and costs would need to take place

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as well, then refined to make a quote. We are currently waiting on this. They will need to pick 3 finalists and maybe visit and see their previous design work, then take it from there.

Mike Costello is the Advisor of the Chair Committee for this rebuild and construction for the new Senior Center. Questionnaires are also currently being sent to our local Seniors for any suggestions on the design plans for the new Senior Center rebuild and will be forwarded over to Mr. Costello.

Ron suggested to have Mr. Costello in our the COA Board Meeting when the specific design stage takes place.

Dr. Lambe asked if the new Senior Center would be built on the same site and Ron was not sure on this as of yet. Ron stated that there are some good things about the current location like the septic and well are still good and the electrical is still in place, so these will be taken into consideration but it could be rebuilt at an alternative location. He just does not have any information on that yet.

- 10) **B.E.S.I. Report---** Dr. Thayer reported that B.E.S.I. has been very busy during this complicated time. They have been working with a skeleton crew and alternating staff. They have plenty of P.P.E. from Federal and State level. Their finances are well.

Dr. Lambe asked Dr. Thayer about vaccines for Seniors and Dr. Thayer has heard nothing yet and will keep them posted if he hears any updates.

- 11) **Friends of the Rehoboth Elderly Report---**

- 12) **Correspondence---**

- 13) **C.O.A. Building usage---** N/A

- 14) **Open Forum---**

- 15) **Other Business Issues---** Ron asked Linda if the Rehoboth Reporter C.O.A. page could be updated to our current status.

- 16) **Adjournment---** 7:41pm- Dr. Robert Lambe motioned to adjourn meeting- Ron Whittemore 1st motioned and Dr. Thayer 2nd motioned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Robens- Secretary

Approved by:



Dr. Robert Lambe
C.O.A. Board President

Next COA Board Meeting- January 13, 2021