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OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK
REHOBOTH, MA

Rehoboth Council on Aging
Board of Directors Meeting
@ Gladys L. Hurrell Rehoboth Senior Center
Minutes of January 13, 2021 via ZOOM

- 1) **Call to order**—7:06 p.m.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3) **Members Present**— Dr. Robert Lambe, Neal Harrington, Ron Whittemore, Dr. Bruce Thayer, Charlene Cunha (audio only),
Linda Sherman
Members Excused— Sue Laverdiere, MaryBeth Moriarty
Guests Present— Kim Robens (audio only), Jim Muri
- 4) **Review past months meeting minutes**—Minutes from Jan. 13, 2021 approved- Dr. Thayer 1st motioned and Neal Harrington 2nd the motion.
- 5) **Presentations**— None
- 6) **Expense Reports**— Ron W. asked how the COA budget was funded out. Linda explained that the COA budget was dispersed in 1/12th increments at a time due to COVID 19 instead of one lump sum previously in the past. Ron asked about the maintenance cost for our temporary COA office hub. Jim Muri explained that the facilities maintenance fees for the Town buildings are now lumped in all together. Dr. Lambe motioned to approve- Dr. Thayer 1st and Neal Harrington 2nd motion.
- 7) **Director's Report**—
Medicare Open Enrollment- has already ended. Brad was seeing clients in-person by appointment only throughout the Covid 19 protocols. Brad is still helping out with S.N.A.P. benefits, fuel assistance and Medicare by appointment only.
Meals on Wheels- Our volunteer drivers are still currently delivering meals. We delivered Holiday dinners to our Meals on Wheels clients that were prepared and donated by Vino's Restaurant.
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. Stockings were passed out during their meal deliveries.
AARP- free simple tax-prep return will resume in March at the American Legion post in Rehoboth. Appointments are almost fully booked already.—Covid 19 protocols will be set in place.
- 8) **Old Business**—None
- 9) **New Business**—Fiscal Year 21-22 COA budget- Linda explained that there will be no increases in our budget this year. Professional and Tech. are no longer needed at this time, so funds are not needed for this. Everything is pretty much the same, very simple. Jim Muri asked about expenses for rent, fuel, etc.... for our temporary office hub. Linda stated that the COA is not paying for that, the Town is currently paying. Tim Johnson at Propane Plus has been extremely nice and helpful with our new office hub and has been paying our heat throughout the winter months.
Dr. Lambe asked to motion and approve the COA FY 21-21 budget as presented, Ron W. 1st and Dr. Thayer 2nd motioned and COA Board were all in favor.

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- 10) **B.E.S.I. Report**— Dr. Thayer reported that B.E.S.I. has been continuously busy and running smoothly. Their finances are good and secure. There is an Executive Session meeting scheduled for next week and a Board Committee meeting scheduled the following week.
- 11) **Friends of the Rehoboth Elderly Report**— None
- 12) **Correspondence**—None
- 13) **C.O.A. Building usage**— N/A
- 14) **Open Forum**—New COA building- Ron Whittemore wants to thank everyone for their input on the general facilities needs. This information will be presented at the next COA Bldg. Advisory Committee meeting. They just got back the R.F.P. from Legal Committee will need to go over contracts regarding the Owners Project Mgr. (O.P.M.), the Architect Firm and the Building Contractor. Ron did have some questions regarding the contracts which were answered promptly by Deb Arruda.
Dr. Thayer asked if a location for the new COA Building has been picked yet. Ron W. stated not as of yet. Maybe near existing location of the previous COA Senior Center or close by. At least the existing septic, well and electric power are already there so that would be a plus. Soil testing still needs to be done. Just not sure at this time. Waiting to hear back from Mike Costello when the next meeting will be. Jim Muri added that it would be nice to have in the new COA Center at the existing location just because everyone is already accustomed to that area.
- 15) **Other Business Issues**—None
- 16) **Adjournment**—7:28 pm- Dr. Robert Lambe motioned to adjourn meeting- Neal Harrington 1st and Ron Whittemore 2nd motioned.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Robens- Secretary

Approved by:



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

Next COA Board Meeting- to be determined at a later time.