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REHOBOTH, MA



Rehoboth Council on Aging

Board of Directors Meeting

@ Francis Hall Senior Center - 27 Francis Farm Road Rehoboth, MA

Minutes of April 20, 2022

- 1) Call to order---3:00 p.m.
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
 - Members Present**--- Neal Harrington, Dr. Robert Lambe, Dr. Bruce Thayer, Ron Whittemore, Dr. Robert Insley
 - Members Excused**--- Sue Laverdiere, MaryBeth Moriarty and Charlene Cunha
 - Guests Present**--- Linda Sherman-COA Director, George Solas and Town Nurse Geri Hamel R.N., M.S.N.
- 3) Review past months meeting minutes---
- 4) Presentations--- None
- 5) Expense Reports--- Posted FEB. 2022 approved.
Director's Report---
 - Classes & Events- Started Line Dancing, Belly Dancing, Cribbage, Ladies Sewing/Quilting, and Ladies Knitting/Crochet
 - Walking Club- Started April 4th
 - Pickleball- Started April 7th
 - Gert's Café- Was a success and will now continue on Mondays
 - Serv Safe- COA Volunteer Training was completed on April 13th
 - Bocce & Horseshoe- Would like to start in May
 - Genealogy- Will be held in May
 - Scrapbooking- Will begin in June on Thursdays
- 6) **Old Business**--- Formula Grant from Boston Central Office for Elder Affairs has been received for FY 2022.
 - My Senior Center program helps keep track of the census here at the Senior Center- information is gathered and sent to Elder Affairs in Boston. The top 3 highest Senior population in our area currently are Rehoboth, Swansea and Somerset.
- 7) **New Business**— Walking Trails are currently not in good shape and need to be worked on.
 - ServSafe in person training and certification class for Linda and 5 COA Kitchen Volunteers was paid by Gifts & Bequests
 - Bocce and Horseshoe court/pit need to be cleaned up and repaint chairs/benches outside for outdoor activities (Highway Dept. project)
 - Commercial racks for kitchen fridge and freezer are needed to keep food storage off of the floors also needed are stainless steel sinks and drying racks
 - Professional Commercial Kitchen cleaners are highly recommended to get kitchen sanitized and ready to go to serve food to the public. Public Town Nurse Ms. Hamel also agreed that the Francis Hall kitchen needs to be "Deep Cleaned" by outside nonpartisan cleaners. No news or feedback as of yet on this topic.
 - Dishwasher has been ordered, not in stock as of yet. Not sure what model was ordered or what comes with it. Assuming that it will be similar to what was used at the previous C.O.A. Senior Center. A "prerinse sink is highly recommended to be next to the dishwasher. A 3-compartment stainless steel sink is also recommended. The Icemaker machine in the kitchen will not be used at all because of potential Listeria.
 - George Solas asked if anyone from the C.O.A. was informed with any updates or information on the current status of the kitchen. Suggestions, ideas and quotes for the kitchen were all given to Gerry Schwall with items that were needed in October of 2021 and no feedback has been given to the C.O.A. as of yet.
 - George Solas stated that the Town has been working with the insurance company to get full replacements but the value given is not where it should be at.
 - Francis Farm water wells were tested PFAS were detected. There are currently 2 wells at Francis Farm. The water at Francis Farm still has to be tested for P.F.A.S. and cleared for drinking. A water filtration is needed and Bids are out for a price on the filtration system. The Hot water at both Francis Farm House and the

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Francis Hall have a terrible sulfur smell and it is getting worse not better. George Solas stated that he never heard anything about the water being so terrible. Dr. Robert Lambe highly recommended that a charcoal filter water purifier system with an added ultra violet filter be added.

- 8) **B.E.S.I. Report**--- Dr. Thayer said that the new C.E.O. at B.E.S.I. is great and that the operations are stable and funding is very good.
- 9) **Friends of the Rehoboth Elderly Report**--- nothing to report
- 10) **Correspondence**— Keep Rehoboth Beautiful donation was given from the Rehoboth C.O.A.
- 11) **C.O.A. Building usage**--- None
- 12) **Open Forum**--- The COA Board commended Linda Sherman for doing such a nice job getting the Senior Activities started and up and running with such success.
 - The C.O.A. was told that a valve was ordered for the stove in the kitchen but not what kind of valve and its purpose.
 - Ron Whittemore stated the ANSUL System need to be 100% running before the kitchen is up and running.
 - C.O.A. Director Linda Sherman got a special cake and flower bouquet for Gert's 100th Birthday to share with her family at home.
 - Ron W. asked if Gifts & Bequests (G&B) funding could be used to buy a new stove for the kitchen since it is being used for serving the Rehoboth Senior Community. Capitol purchases can't be paid through the G&B account. However, some of the funds from the G&B account were used to supplement the new generator that was put in at the old Senior Center on Bay State Rd. The Town under estimated the purchase of the generator and the C.O.A. had to pay the difference. Why can't G&B funds be used to get what is needed for the kitchen to get it up and running quicker for the Seniors? Dr. Lambe and Ron both asked for guidance on how G&B funds can be used.
 - Ron W. recommended to not get a movable/retractable wall for the cafeteria to separate activities. A wall does not make more space. The Director has scheduled dining and physical activities separately. Dr. Lambe agreed with this as well. Ron W. did suggest tables with wheels. Linda said that Mike at the Highway Dept. has been very accommodations with small projects or anything else that is needed for the C.O.A. Senior Center- Billy, Bob and Cameron are super helpful and very pleasant to work with.
- 13) **Other Business Issues**— George Solas wanted to note that Mass. Municipalities rules and regulations for the Town can't prepay for products unless we have it on hand.
 - Nurse Geri H. did a Town survey for any program suggestions that anyone would be interested in that was listed on the Town website and Rehoboth Reporter. Mostly Seniors responded, no interests from the younger family population. Suggestions for a Bereavement Group has been received and a program will start in April. A Support Group for Caregivers was also suggested. A Health Fair will be held at Francis Farm on May 7th. Dr. McLaughlin will be doing a podiatry clinic on May 26th at the Public Nurse's office. There will be a \$20 charge per person and 6 people have already booked the 12 slots.
- 14) **Adjournment**--- 4:20 p.m.- Dr. Robert Lambe motioned to adjourn meeting- Ron W. 1st motion, Dr. Thayer 2nd motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Robens- Secretary

Approved by



Dr. Robert Lambe- C.O.A. Board Chairman

Next COA Board Meeting- May 18, @ 7:00 p.m.