



Rehoboth Council on Aging
Board of Directors Meeting
@Francis Farm Hall- 27 Francis Farm Rd
Minutes of May 25, 2022

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OFFICE OF THE TOWN CLERK
REHOBOTH, MA

- 1) **Call to order**---7:00 p.m.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3) **Members Present**---Dr. Robert Lambe, Dr. Bruce Thayer, Dr. Robert Insley, Neal Harrington, Ron Whittemore, Sue Laverdiere, Charlene Cunha
Members Excused--- MaryBeth Moriarty
Guests Present--- COA Director-Linda Sherman, Skip Vadnais and Nurse Geri Hamel
- 4) **Review past months meeting minutes**---April 20, 2022 approved by the COA Board
- 5) **Presentations**--- None
- 6) **Expense Reports**--- Ron W. asked to follow up on whether or not the money from Gifts & Bequests (G & B) could be used to help get the kitchen up and running quicker. The COA Board was told previously that G & B funds can only be used to benefit the Seniors but can't be used for capital expenses. No other questions on the April 2022 COA Budget and approved by the COA Board Members.
- 7) **Director's Report**---
Classes & Events- Belly Dancing very well liked and doing great, Drums Alive classes hopefully to begin in a few months once the instructor recovers from surgery.
Walking Club- Ralph Arguin has been recently assigned and involved organizing the new club and it has been doing very well. There are currently not using the walking trails but they are using the pavilion in the back and some people are just walking a loop in the development.
Gert's Café- Doing well and Seniors are happy with the catered food being served-been dining outside under the pavilion and will continue to do so while the weather is nice.
Bocce & Horseshoes -Highway Dept. did clean up the areas but the deer keep walking through and messing up the courts. They are trying to find a "deer friendly" solution- maybe some type of gating/lattice around the area to keep them out. The Highway Dept. will not be able to keep maintaining the courts, they are short staffed and have their normal highway duties to attend. Recommend having Volunteers to keep up with courts moving forward once a solution is in place to keep the deer out of the area.
Genealogy classes - has not started as of yet but will soon. They will teach and help with research. Seniors would have to bring in their laptops/tablets. We did have refurbished apple iPads donated to the COA and are currently waiting for Derek to get them set up.
- 8) **Old Business**---New stove for the COA kitchen is in, convention oven and griddle are in working order. No status on dishwasher as of yet still on backorder stated by Skip V.

Ron asked about updates on the water filtration system- Skip V. stated that they are still working on this. The filtration system is more complicated than they originally anticipated because it has not been used in a few years. The original quote received of \$35,000 was too expensive and they are currently in the process of hiring another company who can utilize the filtration system that is already here on the grounds. George Solas will be helping out with the process of getting the water filtration system up and running.
Skip V. stated that George Solas has been assigned with expediting COA projects that are a top priority like the kitchen and water filtration system. George S. will be more present here on grounds at the COA moving forward.

Ron asked who would be their contact person to ask about Gifts & Bequests (G&B) funds to be spent on expenses vs. capitol. G&B funds were previously spent on capitol expense projects in the past but can not be used now at the new Senior Center. Skip V. stated that George Solas has been researching what the rules and regulations are on how to spend G&B funds.

- 9) **New Business---** Skip V. stated that the kitchen must be passed and approved by the Board of Health- there is still no drinking water yet in the building. Karl Drown will need to be contacted to set up an appointment to come and inspect the kitchen before any food is cooked and served here at the COA.

The Fire Chief also needs to be contacted to approve that the Ansul system is operational and ready to go for the stove and oven to be used to cook the food to serve the Seniors.

Kitchen deep cleaning- No word yet on who is going to do it. It is highly recommended by the COA Board Members that it be professionally cleaned and sanitized by an outside company that specializes in that. The kitchen has not been used in 3 years and is in very rough shape. Waiting of further information on this.

COA Director asked if they could start serving simple egg and cheese breakfast sandwiches on Wed. mornings again like they did before at the previous COA. Dr. Lambe motioned to hold off serving simple breakfast sandwiches at the COA until the Board of Health and Fire Chief approve the COA kitchen is clean and operational for use. Neal H. 1st motioned and Charlene Cunha 2nd the motion.

Dr. Lambe wanted to further discuss ideas on services that are wanted/needed and how to expand this at the Senior Center. Nurse Geri Hamel stated that she is trying to get a 62+ demographic in order to get started. A survey on nursing services, activities, ride/transportation to the Senior Center. The COA Director stated that GATRA van services were used previously and worked well. The Seniors would call GATRA directly 24 hours in advance to reserve a ride to the Senior Center and back home.

Dr. Lambe recommended a mailing and direct calling the Seniors using an approved script to ask survey questions. The COA and Nursing Dept could help with this project.

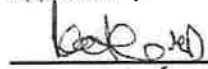
- 10) **B.E.S.I. Report---** None
11) **Friends of the Rehoboth Elderly Report---** None
12) **Correspondence---** Thank you letter sent from the COA Board Members for the Gert's Café sign that Philip Karl handmade and also a thank card from the COA Senior Center on behalf of the Seniors.
13) **C.O.A. Building usage---** None
14) **Open Forum---** Sue Laverdiere asked about new COA Board Members and if they have expanded the amount of COA Members on the current board. Dr. Lambe stated that Dr. Robert Insley has been newly appointed to the COA Board and they are pending an additional Board Member once the Selectman approve Brittney Bixenman who is a Geriatric Occupational Therapist, some time at the end of June.

MaryBeth Moriarty has been newly assigned an "Emeritus position"- she can participate in COA Board meeting but will not be able to vote.

- 15) **Other Business Issues---**None
16) **Adjournment---**8:09 pm- Dr. Robert Lambe motioned to adjourn meeting- Ron Whittemore 1st motioned and Sue Laverdiere 2nd motioned.

*Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Robens- Secretary*

Approved by:



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

Next COA Board Meeting- To be determined at a later time