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**Rehoboth Council on Aging**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**  
**@Francis Farm Hall- 27 Francis Farm Rd**  
**Minutes of October 26, 2022**

- 1) **Call to order**---7:00 p.m.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3) **Members Present**--- Dr. Robert Lambe, Ron Whitemore, Dr. Bruce Thayer, Brittany Bixenman, Dr. Robert Insley, Charlene Cunha, Sue Laverdiere **Members Not in Attendance**---Associate Member MaryBeth Moriarty **Members Excused**--- Neal Harrington **Director Present**---Linda Sherman **Guests Present**--- Richard Panofsky, George Solas, and Town Nurse-Gerri Hamel, RN, MSN
- 4) **Review past months meeting minutes**---11.04.21 minutes COA Board approved as is, 08.24.22 minutes COA Board approved as is, 09.28.22 minutes **REVISE: Karl Drown**, no other revisions needed-COA Board approved as is.
- 5) **Presentations**--- None
- 6) **Expense Reports**--- Nothing to report- Town Acctg. dept. has not posted their Munis report as of yet. Formula Grant funding has been received.
- 7) **Director's Report**--- **Food Services**- Meals on wheels continues. **Gert's Café** has been serving 60-70 guests per week. **Snacks** are available at the coffee bar, **Donuts** from Dunkin Donuts on Wednesdays and Fridays each week. **Pie & Coffee**- pies from Bateman's Apple Farm- about 20-25 guests coming  
**Drums Alive**---Kelly Brophy is our new Drums Alive instructor  
**Watercolor Class**- Daisy Gilmore is our new Watercolor paint instructor. We increased our students up to 22 that attended.  
**Crafty Fun Class**- 11 students signed up for the pumpkin painting class.  
**Informational TV**- 65" TV monitor has been approved and will be displayed near the coffee bar area.  
**1<sup>st</sup> Annual Health Fair**- COA provided instructors to demonstrate Zumba, Belly Dancing, Drums Alive and Watercolor Classes.  
**Receptionist area**- COA Director will be meeting with the Selectman to get approval for a desk, computer and phone. Dr. Thayer motioned to express his hearty endorsement of a COA receptionist area. Ron W. also included that the lack of a receptionist limits the COA's ability to greet people coming in and also making sure that they are checking in for the activities that they are coming for. The lack of a front entrance receptionist also limits the COA's ability to keep more accurate statistics of the Senior Center's census. Mr. Panofsky highly recommended that a 3<sup>rd</sup> computer and phone system is needed to successfully keep the Senior Center on track. Chairperson Brittany Bixenman motioned to approve this request and all Board members agreed and approved this motion 7-0
- 8) **Public Health Report**---Town Nurse Gerri H. went over current public health State and Local data relevant to our area which included-Covid-19, Influenza, Mosquito-borne illness: West Nile Virus and E.E.E., Tick-borne illness: Lyme, babesiosis and anaplasmosis.  
-Town Nurse Gerri stated that there is still an uptick on Covid cases, currently still using State wastewater reports for data. Dr. Lambe has concerns with not only Covid cases, but R.S.V and Flu as well increasing this coming winter.  
-Community Health Fair was a big success! At least 215 people attended and the Senior Center has had new people come for luncheons. The Bereavement Group here has increased and Senior Home visits have increased from 2- 15 check-ins. Covid and Flu vaccines are available for home bound seniors as well.
- 9) **Old Business**---**Update on kitchen renovations and deep cleaning**- convection oven and dishwasher are hooked up, still waiting on parts for the other items and also waiting for the water to be cleared for drinkable use from the State.  
-**Update on iPads**- waiting for Derek from I.T. to set up for the Seniors to use to play games, read books, etc. ... We do not a timeframe set up as of yet when they will be available for use.  
-**Update on cyber security presentation**- scheduled for Nov. 28<sup>th</sup> after Gert's Café regarding scams through emails and phone calls, etc....

continued...

- 10) **New Business---** Mission Determination/Mission Statement updating- create a Subcommittee of 2-3 Board Members to update. Must be general with no specifics because it may alienate certain age groups or people with disabilities. There is no age limit defined in legislation, we must be vague. Federal age range for Seniors is usually 60+. Let's collect ideas and collaborate together. Sort out Social Services and Council on Aging Services. C.O.A. is usually used as an umbrella term that covers Senior Centers in general. Let us focus on more details. Chairperson Brittany B. motioned to revise/update current Mission Statement. Sue L. 1<sup>st</sup> motioned and Ron W. 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. fantastic since she took over for Nancy Munson.
- 11) **Friends of the Rehoboth Elderly Report---** There are some funds available for those in need for fuel. Friends are a last resort once other options like Citizens for Citizens, Catholic Charities, and C.O.A. Gifts and Bequests fuel assistance are not available. Brad is in charge of requests and eligible applicants currently.
- 12) **Correspondence---** None
- 13) **C.O.A. Building usage---** None
- 14) **Open Forum---** None
- 15) **Other Business Issues---** None
- 16) **Adjournment---** 8:32pm- Dr. Robert Lambe motioned to adjourn meeting- all Board Members present unanimously agreed to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,  
Kimberly Robens- Secretary

Approved by:  
Brittany Bixenman- C.O.A. Board Chairperson



Next COA Board Meeting- 11.16.22 @7pm