



Rehoboth Council on Aging

Board of Directors Meeting

@ Rehoboth Senior Center- 27 Francis Farm Rd- Francis Hall

Minutes of December 01, 2021

- 1) **Call to order**---3:00 p.m.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3) **Members Present**--- Neal Harrington, Dr. Robert Lambe, Dr. Bruce Thayer, Ron Whittemore and Charlene Cunha
Members Excused--- Sue Laverdiere and MaryBeth Moriarty
Guests Present--- Linda Sherman, Gerry Schwall, Skip Vadnais and Jim Muri
- 4) **Review past months meeting minutes**---None
- 5) **Presentations**--- None
- 6) **Expense Reports**--- Sept. COA Budget approved
Director's Report---
[Thanksgiving Baskets](#)- were donated to our seniors by Rehoboth Congregational Church
[SHINE Volunteer](#)- we welcomed Debora Bonin as a SHINE volunteer to help Brad 1 day/wk. Kathy will also be helping Brad with Fuel Assistance 1 day/wk.
[BESI Meals on Wheels](#)- still continuing for our Seniors and our COA Volunteer Drivers have been helpful
- 7) **Old Business**---None
- 8) **New Business**--- Skip V. talked about having a Welcome Back opening for the COA at the new Francis Farm Rd. location. Kitchen can't function at this time- Gas is not operating because parts are needed and they are back ordered. No washing dishes or cooking with the water at this time- few amendments are needed for the drinking water to be passed. Current industrial dishwasher in the kitchen does not heat up enough to sterilize. Skip V. asked for recommendations and list of commercial equipment and kitchen items needed

Dr. Lambe asked when the COA move will happen- Dec. 13th will be packing the moving crates and Dec. 15th will be complete and settled in at the new Francis Farm location. Linda recommended Dec. 20th for Seniors to come and look around. Ron asked if we had commercial coffee makers already- Linda had ordered them and they are backordered. Skip asked to make a list of things needed (bottled water, paper cups, napkins, etc.) for the opening and they will provide contacts for vendors to order what is needed. Dr. Lambe asked Linda to get a list of COA Volunteers to help out with the Welcome Back Opening. Dr. Lambe asked how we would advertise the Welcome Opening. Linda said we could call the Seniors directly and have them help spread the word. Gerry and Skip recommended to put on the Town Website as well. Skip will contact Highway Dept. Dave Perry to make NO PARKING signs in certain areas of the Francis Farm property in order to have easy access in case emergency vehicles need to come. Billy Pray can help with parking on the Welcoming Opening Day. Jim Muri stated to send out a memo to all the Dept. Heads to let them know about the Welcome Opening and invite them as well if they want to come.

Jim Muri stated that the water at Francis Farm is not drinkable but can be used for toilets. But water to drink or wash with has to be bottled. Carl Drown is currently working with the State to get the water approved for drinking. Skip asked Jim if it was possible to temporarily get drinking water delivered in 'water buffalo containers and store here at Francis Farm. Jim said he would look into it and take care of it. Gerry recommended that Linda get in touch with Debbie Arruda as well regarding the drinking water and put on Town Account. Also, any Francis Farm building issues will need to be addressed directly to Skip V.

- 9) **B.E.S.I. Report---** None
- 10) **Friends of the Rehoboth Elderly Report---** None
- 11) **Correspondence---** None
- 12) **C.O.A. Building usage---** None

Open Forum--- Skip V. stated that the Selectmen have created a Community Health Board to oversight Covid and Health policies which would include Masks/No Masks, food handling, etc. They have assigned Dr. Robert Lambe, Dr. Bruce Thayer and Gerry Schwall on this new Board which will be in charge and have full control of the S.H.I.N.E./Outreach, Veterans and Town Nursing Dept. This newly created Board will have full control over the Health Policies and protocol on Residents of high risk of the Town. Linda Sherman will only be in charge of the COA Activities moving forward and no longer will be helping with the S.H.I.N.E./Outreach Programs.

Ron W. asked Skip V. if the Francis Farm Carriage shed could be used as a garage for maybe a future COA Van, Highway Dept. equipment and Veterans Van. Skip V. stated that this would not be possible because the Historical Committee have already put in a request and designated C.P.C. money to renovate and use the Carriage shed and 2 other small buildings on the property for the Town's Historical artifacts and programs. The Selectmen have already made a final decision for this. Skip stated that the COA is only a portion of the property not all of it. The Historical and Recreation Committee is part of the Francis Farm property as well as Town Hall Meetings and Voting. Francis Farm will be considered a Community Complex.

- 13) **Other Business Issues--** None

- 14) **Adjournment---** 3:51p.m.- Dr. Robert Lambe motioned to adjourn meeting- Charlene Cunha 1st motion and Neal Harrington 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