

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024
9:00 A.M.
PRINCETON SENIOR CENTER, 206 WORCESTER ROAD

PRESENT:	BOARD MEMBERS:	Jane Giumette, Barbara Guthrie, Bill Lindquist, Donna MacKenzie, Wendy Pape, Michael Warren
	BOARD ALTERNATE:	Fran Thomas
	GUEST:	Jen Greene
	DIRECTOR:	Judith Webster
ABSENT:	ADMIN. & PROGRAM ASST:	Kelly Aveni
	BOARD MEMBERS:	Susan Stolberg

Minutes of the January 3, 2024 meeting were approved as presented. Mike thanked everyone who helped at the Chili Luncheon in January.

Financial Report. Currently the COA financials are in good shape. Electricity and Heat line items will go over budget. Additional monies will be added to cover the rent increase. A zoom meeting will be held next week to review the FY25 budget with the selectboard. Funding for the laminate floor will be included in next year's budget. A 3 percent increase in salaries is being proposed.

Programming. Pickleball has been suspended for the winter. It is hoped that it can resume in April. There will be a workshop in May or June for new players. The pickleball equipment will be removed from Krashes Field and brought to the Center for storage in the basement.

The **Zentangle and Doodle Workshops** have yet to be scheduled. The **Felting** workshop will be offered on February 15th. Thirteen people have registered to date.

An **AI** presentation will be offered on February 27th at 11:00 a.m. A **CHAT GPT** talk will be offered on March 12th.

A 6 session **Watercolors** class with Charlie Gray will be offered beginning in March. A spring floral centerpiece will hopefully be offered sometime in March before Easter.

A nurse from the Board of Health will be available once a month to take blood pressures and provide diabetes checks. Immunizations will be offered in the Fall.

Retired meteorologist, Harvey Leonard, will give a talk on climate change on April 11th, 12:00 noon. A fall prevention workshop may be offered in April. Judith is looking into offering a series of one hour workshops on downsizing.

The **Chili luncheon** was well attended. The space worked well but parking was an issue. It was suggested that someone direct traffic if another event is held there. Discussion was held on what other venues might be available in the Princeton area for an outside food event. NORCO was one suggestion. The use of the parking lot and the inside of the Senior Center was another thought. It was suggested that a committee be put together to explore location options.

Mountainside Café is donating raspberry crunch bars for a **Valentine Day's Grab and Go**. Grab bags will be assembled to include the bars and candies to hand out from 12:00-12:30 on Valentine's Day.

It was noted that there have been inquiries from people who would like to use the Center for an event but do not have the required liability insurance. Board members were asked to refer these types of inquiries directly to Judith.

The Annual Report has been submitted to the town on February 1st.

Services. The number of people getting Meals on Wheels has increased slightly. There have been inquiries regarding fuel assistance but it is difficult to access as monies are reimbursed at the end of the season rather than given out when needed. Wachusett House is looking for a new director. The Center had a telephone call from someone who was complaining that the town is not doing enough for people who need assistance. However, the caller would not reveal name(s) of people in need nor what type of help was needed.

Data Projects. Fran is working on updating the census for “My Senior Center” software. People from ages 60-64 are being added in. In the future, people who turn 60 will be added in annually. A survey will go out to all seniors once “My Senior Center” has been updated.

New Business. The board voted to keep the day and time of board meetings the same as when we have been meeting – the first Wednesday of the month at 9:00 a.m.

Judith expressed concern that the Open Studio sponsored by the Princeton Arts Society on Thursdays from 12 – 2 has not been well attended.

Barbara requested that the time of the “games” offering on Mondays be changed from 1:30 to 2:00.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 6, 2024, 9:00 A.M. Mike Warren will preside as Wendy will be away.