TOWN OF PRINCETON

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

TUESDAY, JUNE 4, 2019

12:15 P.M.

PRINCETON SENIOR CENTER, 206 WORCESTER ROAD

PRESENT: COUNCIL MEMBERS: Jane Fife, Barbara Guthrie, Beverly Kohlstrom, Wendy

Pape, Susan Stolberg, Michael Warren

DIRECTOR: Aimee Kindorf

ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Nicole Boardman

ADVISORY MEMBER: William Andrysick

UNABLE TO ATTEND: COUNCIL MEMBER: Terry Thompson

The May7, 2019 meeting minutes were approved as presented.

PART TIME ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT/PROGRAM COORDINATOR POSITION. Nicole Boardman was introduced. Nicole will be working with Aimee during the month of June as part of her orientation process. In the future her hours will be somewhat flexible and will probably have some hours that overlap with Aimee and some hours by herself to allow the Center to be open for longer periods of time. Nicole lives in Sterling and also works for the Sterling Senior Center.

BOARD CHAIR BREAKFAST MEETINGS WITH SELECTBOARD. The Selectboard will hold quarterly meetings with town committee chairs. The first one is scheduled for Thursday, June 13th. Barbara Guthrie will attend as Wendy will be away.

Discussion was held on the areas of focus to be brought to the selectboard’s meeting. Major concerns include: (a) the need for policies and procedures in the use of the Center in addition to senior activities. This includes who can/will be able to use the space, fee schedule, maintenance/cleaning responsibilities, staffing during off hours, etc. Aimee noted that she has been trying to reach the management company to have a lock box installed where a key to the building could be located. She noted there was a $2,500 allowance in the budget for a key fob system to be put in place. (b) Wellington Management system is very unresponsive to messages left regarding the work that remains to be done in the space. In the original construction period no work was done in the bathrooms. New floors and new toilets need to be installed. The outside door leading to the back parking lot is not working probably and a lock box needs to be installed on the outside of the building. The question was raised as to who should be responsible for payment of the needed bathroom renovations since this would be part of the infrastructure. And, what is the owner’s responsibility in getting his management company to respond in a timely manner. (c). Where does the Senior & Community Center fit in regarding the responsibilities of the new committee whose charge is oversight of building maintenance since the building is not owned by the town.

CONGREGATE MEALS. A meeting with the MOC Site Coordinator, Tracy Dellovo, will be held on Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 1:00 p.m. Board members are encouraged to attend. The meal would be available on the same day (Tuesday) Meals on Wheels are delivered to Princeton. Food is cooked in the middle of the night and delivered hot to the Center the next day. Staff/volunteers would be responsible for serving and cleanup duties. It was agreed to start in August by offering one meal a week.

The Commodities program would be a monthly delivery of food with our own staff/volunteers doing the cooking. The amount of donated food would probably require the Center to offer additional weekly meals. There has been some discussion to have the Congregational Church and the Senior Center combine forces in offering luncheons to Princeton residents.

Discussion was held on whether to accept the small freezer from the Wachusett Food Pantry. Since the age of the freezer is unknown, the board voted to purchase a new, larger refrigerator for the kitchen, move the existing refrigerator to the back hall and refuse the freezer donation from the Wachusett Food Pantry. It was noted that a newer appliance is going to be more energy efficient.

Aimee noted that she would like to have the Center serve light breakfasts perhaps 2 mornings a week. A discussion will be held with MOC regarding possible food donations for this service. The plan would be to start this in July.

PROGRAMMING. New programs that are being offered in June include (a) Audubon on June 5th (b) Home Safety Lecture for Seniors on June 12th, (c) Ice Cream/Strawberry Shortcake Social on June 13th, and (d) Container Gardening Workshop on June 19th. Tai Chi classes started on Monday, June 3rd and will run for 4 weeks on a trial basis. Seventeen people attended the first session. If the program continues, the instructor will be paid $125/month with participants asked to provide a donation per session.

Other plans for additional programming include: Additional card games (Pitch will be offered two Tuesdays a month). The Center has been approached by a gentleman who would like to offer group piano lessons at $5.00 a person. The group would be limited in number. Efforts will be made to move the donated piano to the Center in the next month. This program would begin in September.

There has been some interest from residents about the Center offering day trips to local venues. More research is needed. Bob Wilby, former AAA employee and trip planner for Paxton, will be invited to meet with the board to seek his advice and to see if Princeton can collaborate with him on trip offerings.

The date for the end of summer barbeque will be Tuesday, September 10,2019.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.