TOWN OF PRINCETON

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2021

9:00 A.M.

PRINCETON SENIOR CENTER, 206 WORCESTER ROAD

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS: Barbara Guthrie, William Lindquist, Donna MacKenzie,

Susan Stolberg, Terry Thompson, Mike Warren

BOARD ALTERNATE: Fran Thomas

DIRECTOR: Judith Webster

ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Nickole Boardman

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Wendy Pape, Board Member; Jane Giumette, Alternate

**Minutes** of the August 12, 2021 meeting were approved as presented.

**Financial Update.** As we are only 2 months into the fiscal year, our expenditures are in line where they should be. Judy Breen was reimbursed for her out of pocket expenses for the August Grab & Go.

**Grab & Go Update.** Date for the September Grab & Go is 9/24-9/25. Menu is baked ziti, tossed salad, and apple cake. Fran and Donna will cook on Thursday. Terry will help set up at 9:00 a.m. on Friday morning. Pam, Sue & Barbara will arrive around 11:15 to help with the final packaging and the meal distribution. Bill will direct traffic. Judy Breen has agreed to cook another meal probably early in 2022.

**Senior/Community Center Usage Policy.** Judith, Wendy, Mike & Barbara met to redo the draft of the Facility Use Agreement. Another meeting is scheduled the week of the 13th to review the final draft before submitting it to Sherry Patch and Karen Cruise.

**Access Control System.** Judith reported that 2 proposals have been submitted and she is waiting for a third one. Phil Connors, Police Chief, Michelle Powers, and the town’s IT Consultant, Peter Cummings will be consulted about the system. Efforts will be made to write a grant to pay for the system or else it would have to be added to a town warrant for capital expense approval. Cost is estimated to be in the $5,000 range.

**Summer Barbeque.** Since the September newsletter was sent out, reservations are steadily coming in. Town employees and residents of Wachusett House will be invited. Menu includes Hamburgers, Hot Dogs, Corn on the Cob, Potato Salad, Tossed Salad, Chips, Brownies, Ice Cream and assorted cold drinks. Judith distributed an extensive list of food that needs to be purchased (including what has already been purchased), general supplies that will be needed, equipment needed, as well as tasks that need doing on Wednesday and on Thursday, the day of the barbeque. Jane and Peter Giumette are donating the corn. Mike and members of the Men’s Group will take responsibility for set up and take down on Thursday of the equipment (tables/chairs/etc) and will do the cooking on the grill. Other board members will assist in the serving of the food. Individual packets of condiments will be handed out. A meet and greet table will be manned by board members as well. A representative from Quabbin Valley Healthcare will be in attendance and will donate a door prize. Mike will be responsible for filling the propane tanks before they are returned to the fire department following the event. Denise Ducharme will be there to take photos of the event. Board members will bring coolers to store beverages and pop up tents to cover the food and the meet and greet table. The Hip Swayers will play from 12:30-1:30.

**New Fall Programming and Proposed Programming.** Piano lessons will be starting this month. Kate from Kate’s Powerhouse will offer a yoga class on Wednesdays in her studio. A memory training program is going to be held in October as well as an afternoon workshop on making your own seasonings. Attendees will be charged a $10.00 fee to participate. An indoor gardening workshop will be planned for later in the season. Staff are working on securing a new Tai Chi instructor. Other programs being considered include an antiques roadshow and a pastel class led by Dennis Coughlin.

Judith noted that when the COA pays an instructor, participants will be charged a fee so that programming can be sustained. It is also unclear what people’s reactions may be to meeting again inside given the direction COVID seems to be taking.

A drive through flu clinic will be held on October 5th. Reservations are required.

**New Business.** Fran Thomas requested that the Board reach out to the town’s seniors again through phone calls. It was suggested people 70 and over be targeted. Judith will ask the town clerk for a list. Judith noted there is a way to set up automatic phone calls using the “My Senior Center” program. Efforts are being made to get more email addresses so that emails can be used as a communication tool as well.

There has been no response from LPI relative to securing advertisements in order to have LPI handle the printing of the Princeton newsletter

Meeting was adjourned at 10:20 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021, 9:00 AM.**