**TOWN OF PRINCETON**

**COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, OCTOBER 7, 2021**

**9:00 A.M.**

**PRINCETON SENIOR CENTER, 206 WORCESTER ROAD**

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS: Barbara Guthrie, William Lindquist, Donna MacKenzie, Wendy Pape, Susan Stolberg, Mike Warren

BOARD ALTERNATE: Fran Thomas

DIRECTOR: Judith Webster

ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Nickole Boardman

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Terry Thompson, Board Member; Jane Giumette, Board Alternate

**Minutes** of the September 2, 2021 meeting were approved as presented.

**Financials** through 9/28/2021 were reviewed. Electricity is running higher than anticipated as the Center is open more than it was last year. The Grab & Go meals are running under $200/month. These expenses come out of the State grant. Net cost of the barbeque which served approximately 70 people was $709.06.

**Flu Clinic.** Seventy-nine people received flu shots. Moving the clinic indoors worked well.

**COVID CLINIC.** The Princeton Board of Health has given their share of vaccine doses to Rutland. They will provide booster shots to Princeton seniors on October 14th in Rutland. The Princeton Fire Department is waiting for their supply of the vaccine and will run clinics at the Princeton Senior Center. Times will be announced once the vaccine is received. A separate card will be issued for the booster shots. Judith expressed concern about the level of cleaning that will occur following the booster clinics. Mike will stop by to make sure the Hydroxyl Generator is running. It was noted that directions for running the Generator should be made available. It is shut off sometimes by people using the building because of the noise and they forget to turn it back on when leaving the building.

**Building Use Policy.** The committee (consisting of Judith, Wendy, Mike & Barbara) reviewed and updated the original draft. Town Administrator, Sherry Patch, and Selectperson, Karen Cruise, are meeting with the committee this afternoon to finalize the draft before it goes to the Select Board for final approval.

**Access Control System.** Three bids have been received. They are all not compatible. Differences need to be compared. IT and the Police Department will also review the proposals. Cost appears to be between $5,000-$10,000. There is a question as to whether money can be found to purchase the system this year or if it will have to go into the 2023 budget. It appears that grant money is not available for this purchase.

**New/Proposed Programming.** Due to its popularity, Yoga will now be offered on both Monday and Wednesday mornings. However, when Diane come back to offer her exercise class, the Yoga Monday class will have to be changed to another day. Cost is $5.00/class, space is limited to 12 people and no masks are required. Princeton seniors are given priority.

Eleven people have signed up for the adult coloring kits. Five people attended the “make your own seasonings” class. To date only three people have signed up for the next watercolor class. A search is on to find someone to lead a mahjong group.

Judith noted that at the MCOA Conference there was encouragement expressed to plan hybrid programming so that people who do not feel comfortable meeting in person could participate remotely. It was suggested that this be done for the memory training as well as asking the Garden Club to provide a hybrid program.

Some discussion was held about some cooking/food programs but it was finally agreed not to pursue this idea for a while because of COVID.

Attendance for the Mindfulness classes is fluctuating. If costs cannot be covered, the program may have to be cancelled. Other program ideas included craft workshops and Veterans Day programming. It was suggested that something be included in the November newsletter announcing the Center was looking for program ideas that would interest men.

**Other Business.** An updated list of residents 64 years and older (around 700 people) was provided to the COA by the town clerk. The list only includes name, address and birth date. Discussion was held on how best to get contact information such as phone numbers and email addresses so the information can be entered into the My Senior Center software. People are reluctant to answer their phones if they do not know who is calling.

It was noted that the town is looking for a representative from the COA board to serve on a new Housing Production Committee.

Judith reported the MCOA is talking about cities/towns becoming “Dementia Friendly Communities.” It would be a town wide process with many different committees becoming involved.

Fran distributed a sign-up sheet for workers for the October and November Grab & Go’s. It was suggested that a cider and doughnut Grab & Go be done on Veterans Day with the Men’s Group providing the staffing. Holiday breads will be the menu for the December Grab & Go.

Nickole reported that a new marketing person has been hired by LPI so there is nothing new to report at the moment.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING: Thursday, November 4, 2021, 9:00 a.m.**