**TOWN OF PRINCETON**

**COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 4, 2021**

**9:00 A.M.**

**PRINCETON SENIOR CENTER, 206 WORCESTER ROAD**

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

BOARD ALTERNATES: Jane Giumette, Fran Thomas

DIRECTOR: Judith Webster

ADMIN. ASSISTANT: Nickole Boardman

UNABLE TO ATTEND: Donna MacKenzie & Terry Thompson, Board Members

**Minutes** of the October 7, 2021 meeting were approved as presented.

**Princeton Housing Production Plan Committee.** Fran Thomas was elected to represent the COA on the newly established Princeton Housing Production Plan Committee. It is a one year term. The committee is charged to develop a five year affordable housing plan for the town which will be updated annually. Fran will report the committee’s progress to the Board at its monthly meetings.

**Financial Update.** Overall expenditures are in line with the budget. Electric bill expenditures have seen an increase. There will be some adjustments made to the budget to balance over and under budget expenditures. Preparations for the FY23 budget will begin in December. The Select Board is discussing the possibility of requesting departments to submit budgets that show a decrease from FY22. The COA does not have to pay for the equipment for the new telephone system that was recently installed.

**Grab & Go.** Expenditures from July – October are around $650. It is anticipated the total cost for the year, if we continue the program, will be around $2,000. Around 70 people participate in the program monthly.

Fran announced that Macaroni and Cheese with fresh fruit will be the November menu. Pat, Barbara and Donna will distribute the meals on Friday, November 19th. Mike and Bill will handle traffic control. The menu for December will be holiday breads. Wendy and Donna will do the cooking on December 16th. Susan, Barbara and Jane will handle the distribution on Friday, December 17th. Judy Breen will prepare a Cranberry Chicken meal for distribution on Tuesday, January 25th. Wendy, Jane and Barbara will handle distribution with Bill handling traffic control.

Fran requested help with the making of desserts for the Grab & Go’s. Fran would continue to purchase the ingredients. Jane and Wendy agreed to chair a dessert committee starting in February 2022.

Discussion was held on how long the COA should continue with Grab & Go’s. It was agreed it was too soon to consider serving any meals at the Center. Fran noted she would like to see more meals home delivered. It was agreed to revisit the issue of continuing the Grab & Go’s in the future at our January Board meeting.

**Programming Update.** Mahjong may we offered twice a week – Monday and Thursday. Coloring has become very popular. The second yoga class with Kate has been successful. Since Diane will no longer be able to offer an exercise class, Judith is going to explore the possibility of Kate offering a similar class perhaps on Friday mornings. The memory classes will be offered in January. A hybrid card making class will be offered on December 9th. The fee is $5.00.

If the holiday recipe swap goes well, a similar recipe swap for crockpot or soup recipes may be offered in January. The men’s group is going well. The group will attend a Railers hockey game on Sunday. A guest speaker will be coming to talk about the Australian Outback this week.

**Access Control System.** Three bids have been received. However they are not compatible. Next steps are to compare the differences and to determine where the money will come from to pay for the purchase and installation.

**Senior/Community Center Use Policy.** The policy was accepted by the Select Board after removal of the sentence that was not going to allow children under 6 to attend meetings.

**New Business.** The Wachusett Rotary Club has donated 20 turkeys for distribution to Princeton residents. Nickole will be contacting people who were eligible for the Farmers Market coupons and SNAP benefits.

**Next Meeting: Thursday, December 2, 2021.**

Meeting was adjourned at 10:10.