COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING MINUTES

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2022

9:00 A.M.

PRINCETON SENIOR CENTER, 206 WORCESTER ROAD

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

Wendy Pape, Susan Stolberg, Mike Warren

BOARD ALTERNATES: Fran Thomas

DIRECTOR: Judith Webster

GUEST: Jen Greene

**Minutes** of the August 3, 2022 meeting were approved as presented.

**Grab & Go.** Discussion was held on what to do about a Grab & Go for October. It was decided to put together bags with an apple cider donut and Halloween candy. These will be distributed Friday, October 28th. Wendy, Sue, Jane, Barbara and Mike agreed to help. Bags will be assembled Friday morning and distributed at noon.

**Summer Barbeque.** Three pop up tents have been purchased. Two will be borrowed from the library. Mike will also lend his tent for the event. A large tent, tables and chairs have been rented. The Firemen’s Association will lend us their grill. Donna, Wendy, Fran & Mike will lend their coolers along with cooler packs. Coolers will be brought to the Senior Center by Thursday morning. Fran & Donna will do any necessary food prep at the Center on Thursday afternoon. Food shopping will happen on Thursday. Jane agreed to purchase the Hoodsies. Board Members will assemble at Krashes Field on Friday morning to set up tables and chairs, etc. Jane and Peter Giumette will direct parking. Sue agreed to assist with registration.

**Newsletter.** The newspaper publisher served as the graphic artist for the September newsletter. For future newsletters we will need to find someone else to assemble the newsletter moving forward. The Calendar needs to be ready by the 15th of the month. To avoid delays, the newsletter will be sent to Mike’s home starting with the October issue. A survey will be in the October newsletter asking for people’s email addresses and to determine if anyone would rather receive the newsletter electronically versus the mail. Any updates from when the newsletters are printed could also be done through email/social media.

**Programming.** Apple recipes will be the theme of the October recipe share. Dr. Sabato, a professor at UMASS Medical School, has expressed willingness to give a talk about vaccines and what they can and cannot do. A lecture on Diabetes will be given in November in recognition of the fact that November is Diabetes month. Someone in the Princeton community is interested in starting a Play Reading group.

It was suggested that we ask an estate attorney to come and give a presentation on trusts/wills/etc.

**Outreach & Program Coordinator Position Update.** A woman from Paxton appeared to be a good candidate for the position. However, her current employer agreed to increase her hours which has caused her to remain in that position. Advertisements for the position remain with MCOA and Indeed. Judith is going to ask Nate to put the job listing at the top of the town website.

**Volunteer Hours.** Board members were asked to turn in their hours for the months of June and July, 2022.

**New Business.** Barbara described the Pen Pal Program that the Bravehearts Baseball Team oversees during the off season with Seniors and middle school children. The question was raised whether the students could be from the Thomas Prince School. It was suggested we invite the Bravehearts staff member who oversees the program to our next board meeting for further discussion.

There are no further updates about the establishment of pickleball games. We need to determine what type of equipment is needed and where it could be stored as it would have to be moveable. Wendy agreed to contact Sherry (Town Administrator) and Jaimie (Recreation Director) to determine what needs to be done to more this forward.

Judith reported that a Community Block Development Grant will be awarded to the COA in the amount of $17,050.30 to support local agriculture. The purpose is to see that seniors get nutritious food. The funds will allow the Center to purchase a hydrator to process herbs which can then be sold. The COA would get a portion of the sales. If the products are sold in stores, we would get 40%. If sold by Growing Places, we would get 20%. Seniors in the Community would do the work. Judith noted that she thought the program would give the COA good visibility in the Community.

Judith noted that Cultural Council Grants are now available.

Meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m.

**NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 19, 2022, 9:00 A.M.**