

TOWN OF PRINCETON
COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, December 10, 2019
12:15 P.M.

PRINCETON SENIOR CENTER, 206 WORCESTER ROAD

PRESENT:	COUNCIL MEMBERS:	Jane Fife, Barbara Guthrie, Wendy Pape, Susan Stolberg, Terry Thompson, Michael Warren
	DIRECTOR:	Aimee Kindorf
	ADMIN. ASSISTANT:	Nickole Boardman
	ADVISORY MEMBER:	William Andrysick
UNABLE TO ATTEND:	COUNCIL MEMBER:	Beverly Kohlstrom

Minutes of the November 5, 2019 meeting were approved as presented.

FY21 Budget Discussion. Copies of the proposed FY21 budget were distributed. The budget as presented is level funded from this year. The budget represents an increase in Nicole's hours by 2/weekly and a 2% salary increase for Aimee and Nicole. Expenses such as utilities and heat are unknown as we have not occupied the space for a year yet. The formula grant money is budgeted separately from the town budget and has limitations on how it can and cannot be spent. It is anticipated that there will be money remaining in the COA budget at the end of the fiscal year which could be used for needed capital items as well as an upgrade to "My Senior Center" software. Annual expense for the upgrade would increase to \$1,200 from \$790. Revenue generated by COA programming could increase slightly with additional exercise classes. The COA also has some money that has been generated by donations that could cover additional programming costs.

Aimee suggested that the Center could be staffed to stay open extra hours through the use of volunteers and/or senior tax right off individuals.

Some discussion was held on transportation concerns for people who cannot drive. There will be issues for Princeton residents who rely on the Elderbus service. At some point the COA may want to develop a volunteer driver program to take seniors to places where the Elderbus does not go.

December/January Programming. Everyone has picked up their tickets for the Harrington Farm luncheon. Board members are asked to be there around 11:00 to help greet and mingle with the guests. Twenty people are on the wait list for the luncheon. There will be a drawing for a gift basket.

Ukulele lessons have been discontinued for the holidays. They will begin again in January. The Watercolor class will begin again in February and continue to April. There is discussion about having 2 water color classes – a continuing class for people who were in the first session and another class for new people. The strengthening class may start a second class to possibly be held on Thursday afternoons.

The Princeton Girl Scout Troop would like to host a spaghetti dinner and game night in March.

Sharon Nolli, from Summit Eldercare will host a program on January 14th on "The Power of Positive Thinking."

A "Cookie Challenge" is planned for December 17th and will be held after the Tuesday luncheon.

Aimee is investigating the possibility of holding a Zentango (an art form) class as there have been people who have expressed interest in this art form.

It is anticipated that the Pen Pal program will begin in January. A third grade class at Thomas Prince School will be involved. Twenty-seven seniors will need to be recruited for the project.

Outreach efforts. A letter about COA services will be written and sent out to Princeton residents over the age of 80. A 14 year old girl in the Princeton Boy Scout troop is preparing 10 holiday baskets for people in town who may be in need. Aimee is preparing a list of people who she thinks might appreciate this gift. It was also noted that the Girl Scout troop (4th graders) would like to write Valentines for senior residents.

The Board discussed the possibility of developing a resource list of people who might be willing to shovel snow for residents who might need this help.

Age Friendly Initiative. The Central MA Regional Planning Council made a presentation on this topic at a recent Town Buzz event. The Council's role is to assist towns with planning, not develop plans for communities. This led to a discussion about the possibility of developing a list of people who would be willing to take seniors to the grocery store when they are going grocery shopping themselves. Further discussion on this topic will occur.

A former chef who lives in Princeton, Hamid Yazdanpanah, has expressed interest in preparing a Tuesday luncheon as a guest chef.

It was also noted that the COA will explore the possibility of holding a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon in April, which is Volunteer Appreciation Month.

Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.