

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 6, 2023
9:00 A.M.
PRINCETON SENIOR CENTER, 206 WORCESTER ROAD

PRESENT: BOARD MEMBERS: Jane Giumette, Barbara Guthrie, Bill Lindquist, Donna MacKenzie,
Wendy Pape
BOARD ALTERNATE: Fran Thomas
DIRECTOR: Judith Webster
ADMIN. & PROGRAM ASST: Kelly Aveni
GUEST: Jen Greene
BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Susan Stolberg, Michael Warren

Minutes of the November 1, 2023 meeting were approved as presented.

Financial Report. Adjustments will be made to the budget relative to the increase in rent. The capital budget will be presented to the Selectboard on December 14, 2023. It is difficult to get three bids that are similar. The capital budget will be for laminate flooring. If the bids are under \$10,000, the flooring will not have to be included as a capital item.

The first half of the MEOA money for FY24 has been received in the amount of \$8,000.

PAS Show & Sale grows larger each year. Show items are being stored in the middle room between weekend shows. It was suggested that next year something be included in the rental fee for cleaning once the show is over.

Cultural Council Grants. Two grants were submitted and both were funded including a six session watercolor class with Charlie Gray (cost is \$850 including stipend and supplies) and a documentary of autobiographical stories with Princeton Seniors under the direction of Michael Singh. Cost for this program will be more than \$600 (awarded by the Cultural Council) so some money will come from the COA budget. The watercolor class will probably be held in February. No date has been determined for the start of the autobiographical stories project. The Cultural Council also awarded the Senior Center 20 tickets to be given to Princeton Seniors for the December 7th Worcester Chamber Music Society program to be held in Princeton.

Programming. Pickleball is planning to continue into January, weather permitting. Wednesdays have been omitted from the schedule. The issue of the code used for the equipment storage has not been resolved to date.

The Holiday Centerpieces class was held on December 5th. Only three people signed up to attend.

Luncheon at Harrington Farm will be held on Thursday, December 7th. Doors open at 11:30. Name tags will be available for the approximate 100 people registered to attend. COA board members will assist in checking in attendants.

Due to the holidays and the weather, programming will be kept on the light side for the month of January.

Mountainside Café has contacted the COA about possibly doing something for Princeton Seniors who may be in need. Judith will talk with them further about possible ideas.

A Chili Luncheon for Seniors will be held at noon on Friday, January 19th at Prince of Peace Church (no rental fee is being charged). The menu will include chili, green salad, chips, cornbread, cookies and hoodsies. The meat (left over from the September cookout that was cancelled) will be browned the day before. The Hip Swayers will provide entertainment.

Services. A number of people have signed up for fuel assistance. Unfortunately, fuel assistance is a reimbursement program at the end of the season and not something that is used for paying for oil up front. A few more people have signed up to receive food from the food pantry.

Twenty-five hams, donated by the Wachusett Area Rotary Club, will be given out before Christmas. The same people will receive the hams who received the turkeys at Thanksgiving.

Data Projects. On behalf of the Senior Center, Wendy will send Christmas cards to all Princeton Seniors who are over the age of eighty. Hopefully a survey will be sent to all Princeton Seniors in January which will ask everyone to provide updated contact information as well as programming ideas.

Other Business. Thanks were given to all the people who assisted in cleaning up the front entrance as well as the downstairs storage room.

Meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a.m.

NEXT MEETING: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2024, 9:00 A.M.