

TOWN OF PRINCETON
COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2018
12:15 P.M.

PRINCETON SENIOR CENTER, 206 WORCESTER ROAD

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

The November 6, 2018 Board meeting minutes were approved as presented.

BUDGET UPDATE. Aimee reported she has received the budget package for fiscal 2020. There had been some discussion about sending the monthly newsletter out to be assembled and mailed. However due to the expense the decision has been made to continue to do the work in house.

SPACE UPDATE. Quotes have been received for renovating the Sonoma space before the COA moves in. The town had estimated the cost would be \$80,000-\$90,000. The actual quoted cost was \$140,000. It has been suggested that payment for the renovations be spread out over a longer period to accommodate the additional unexpected costs. While it was suggested that the plans be reviewed to determine if there were anything that could be done differently to cut costs, the board was firm that the renovations need to be done correctly and completely. The board also felt that a room divider should be included to partition off the open space so that more than one program can go on at the same time.

The question was also raised as to why the building owner is not responsible for the infrastructure updates such as plumbing and electrical. Building and fire codes must be met particularly relating to the construction of the kitchen area.

Clarification is also needed on how the COA budget fits in with the renovation costs and in particular with the overage expense.

PIANO DONATION. Discussion was held on whether to accept the donation of an upright piano from a Princeton resident who is moving. Concern was expressed about maintenance (tuning) and moving costs if the highway department was unable to handle the move. A motion was made and seconded to accept the piano if the highway department could handle the move. The vote was a three/three tie. Aimee will follow up with Susan Stolberg to determine her interest in accepting the piano.

PREPARATION FOR THE MOVE. It was agreed to have Aimee set up some times for board members to help with the cleaning and packing of the storage closet.

FUTURE PROGRAMMING.

Holiday Centerpiece. Four people have signed up to make a holiday centerpiece on December 12th. One more person is needed to have the program run.

Upcoming Holiday Celebrations. It was agreed that the next senior luncheon would celebrate St. Patrick's Day. Aimee will check with O'Connors Restaurant to see if they could cater a corned beef

dinner. The luncheon will be combined with the performance of comedian, Steve Henderson, who is scheduled to come in March thanks to a grant from the Cultural Commission.

Exercise Classes. Marty French will offer a series of 4 chair yoga classes in mid January – mid February. Cost will be \$4.00 per class. A 5 week “Balance for Life” exercise and program will also be offered at a date to be determined. A fee will be charged. No further information is available yet on Tai Chi classes.

Mens Group. Mike agreed to research the possibility of starting a “Dull Mens Group” in Princeton. This is a national program.

Kate Sullivan. Kate is a Princeton resident and retired social worker who has volunteered to lead a support group particularly around grief. Other topics may be added if there is interest.

Adult Driver Education. Mike has agreed to offer the AAA sponsored driver education program in the Spring once the COA is located in its new space. Cost is \$15 for AAA members and \$20 for others. Some discussion was held on the possibility of COA helping to defray the cost.

Other Programming. Mike suggested we bring in speakers such as the program that was presented at the Sterling Senior Center on the history of the Wachusett Dam. The possibility of planning day trips was discussed as well. It was agreed that board members could be given tasks to research programming possibilities. The formation of a book club was mentioned as another program idea.

Congregate Meals. Discussion was held on the possibility of having regularly scheduled luncheons once the new space is ready. The board was in agreement to start out with perhaps one luncheon a week. MOC will provide luncheons for \$3.00/person. They provide the cooked food and do the serving and cleanup.

COA BOARD RESPONSIBILITIES.

How to break out tasks/responsibilities. It was agreed that once the move is ready to happen, this item should be revisited. Areas of programming, volunteering and reaching out to town members who may not be able to come to the Center for programs are areas where board members may be able to assist.

Recommended Changes to COA Board Responsibilities was deferred to a future meeting.

TOWN BUZZ. The COA will make a presentation at the December 6th Town Buzz event. In addition to informing people as to what is currently happening through the COA, Aimee will ask the attendees for programming ideas.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m. Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, January 8, 2019, 12:15 p.m., Post Office Place.