

SENIOR CENTER BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – FEB. 9, 2023

Present: Doug Field, Mary Mosley, Janice Wright (Ashfield); Ellen Eller, Janice Fleuriel, Joanne Soroka (Buckland); Suzanne E. Bishop, Nancy E. Brewer, Sylvia Smith, Penny Spearance (Shelburne); Director Juli Moreno.

Chair Nancy Brewer called the meeting to order at 3:00. She thanked Doug Field for his years of service as chair of the Ashfield COA and Chair of the Senior Center Board.

Sylvia Smith moved to accept the January 2023 minutes as submitted. Joanne Soroka seconded the motion, which passed with three abstentions.

Treasurer Suzanne Bishop reported cost increases in heating oil and salaries.

Director Juli Moreno reported that she presented her proposed budget in Ashfield. She meets with Buckland officials Feb. 28 and with Shelburne on March 13. S

Right now she is working to improve the Center's use of rooms and furnishings. She said thanks to the start of "Heart & Soles" walking club at Cowell Gym, the Center has formed a new relationship with the Rec Committee.

Juli said Outreach Coordinator Teddy Doucette continues to provide supportive counseling and medical management, and to coordinate such in-demand services as home repairs, technology support and SNAP applications. Among the many activities overseen by Programming Coordinator Dot Lyman are an inventive range of Meals to Go prepared by a team of talented "Center Chefs." Transportation Coordinator Bob Szafran reported providing 200 rides in January: Ashfield, 31; Buckland, 21; Shelburne, 63; and 85 from other towns.

Discussion followed about re-starting a series of Conversation Cafes.

In her Senior Center Foundation report, Nancy Brewer said total assets remained the same as last month: \$273,265.93. Trish Perlman resigned so we are waiting for a new SCF designee to attend our meetings. The Foundation's Spring Appeal will focus on more outdoor activities (the Fall Appeal focused on site improvement).

Discussion followed about the transition from a Consortium to a District. Sylvia Smith reported that the next step in establishing the District is for Select Boards to vote on Section 3 of the legislation and solicit people interested in being town managers. It is the Managers who have to create a transition plan, and that plan has to be approved by each select board. Right now, there is nothing for the towns to vote on, but Sylvia pointed out that a future vote does not have to take place at Annual Town Meeting, but can be held at a Special Town Meeting.

There was no Old Business; no New Business.

The meeting adjourned at 3:56. Next meeting: Thursday, March 9, at 3:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellen Eller

Approved 3/9/2023