Senior Center Board Minutes – May 13, 2021

*Present, at Buckland Recreation Area Pavilion: Doug Field, Wayne Wickland, Janice Wright, Anne Yuryan (Ashfield); Ellen Eller, Tony Jewell, Joanne Soroka (Buckland); Suzanne E. Bishop, Nancy Brewer, Sylvia Smith, Penny Spearance (Shelburne); Amanda Joao, Director.*

Chair Doug Field called the meeting to order at 2:45. Penny Spearance moved to accept the minutes of the April 8 meeting as written. Nancy Brewer seconded the motion, which passed with one abstention.

Treasurer Sue Bishop reported that the budget’s computer line item increased but we may have a little money left over come July 1. Director Amanda Joao noted that more work will be needed on computers.

In her Director’s report, Amanda said the Center is holding programs such as the Caregivers Support Group, the Memory Café and Thursday Bingo out in back of the building, where we have tables and canopies. The staff is waiting to hear if the Shelburne Select Board will allow the Center to have groups indoors.

Sue Atherton is once again offering farm shares to seniors; the Center serves meals to 50 to 60 people regularly; transportation continues to make trips downtown and to Big Y; and Outreach Coordinator Leanne Dowd has been holding in-person SHINE meetings. Amanda said it is hoped the Senior Center Foundation (SCF) will reimburse the Center for a big air purifier.

Expansion Committee chair Sylvia Smith said the committee prepared a flyer and a large postcard explaining the need to establish a Senior Services District; the flyer will be nested in our newsletter and handed out at Annual Town Meetings. The postcards will be mailed out. Town officials will allow a short presentation at those meetings: Ashfield’s ATM is on June 5 (they have requested a written statement ahead of time); Mike McCusker will offer a one-minute introduction at the Buckland meeting on June 5, followed by a four-minute presentation by Dan Pallotta; the Shelburne moderator agreed to a short presentation at the ATM on June 12. No questions will be permitted at any of these meetings.

Nancy Brewer reported on the SCF: they recommend that we buy our own web address and they want to substitute pictures for text when possible. The Spring appeal has brought in $8700 so far and more is coming in. To date we have $252,534.85 in total assets. We will hold a raffle to win a quilt handmade and donated by Eileen Lively and Barbara Lagoy. It is on display in the window of Sawyer News. Tickets will be sold there and at the Center for $5. The drawing is scheduled for July 4.

There was no Old Business. Re: COAs, we welcomed Tony Jewell to the Buckland COA. Janice Wright came as an observer and may join the Ashfield COA. New Business: We hope to have a picnic in late summer. We discussed how good it was to see one another face to face (with masks) after a year of Zoom meetings.

Penny moved to adjourn the meeting; Nancy seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 3:36.

Next Meeting: Thursday, June 10, at **3:00 AT THE SENIOR CENTER!!**!

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Eller