Swampscott for All Ages Committee Swampscott Senior Center Meeting Minutes, November 15, 2023

Attendees: Joan McCormack, Jenn Nisbet, Bob Powell, Claire Regan, Margaret Somer Sue Sussman, Heidi Whear

Absent: Michele Audet, Kevin Breen, Alyce Deveau, Marzie Galazka, Pat Hines, Bill Quinn

Meeting called to order at 7:06 pm

Minutes from September meeting approved with correction. Minutes from October meeting approved.

Domain Updates

Housing: 491 Humphrey St. is being developed by Charlie Patsios, who spoke with SfAA Committee members. He is proposing a 12 – 16 unit building for seniors (55+) and will allocate at least six units as affordable, 80 percent of the area medium income (AMI), exclusively for Swampscott residents. The project, subject to approvals, will not rely on state subsidies. When asked if he would consider including a blend of lower incomes for the affordable units, Patsios said he could not commit as it's still too early in the process. He urged SfAA members to attend the meetings of the Planning and Zoning Boards when he presents the project for approvals.

YMCA of the North Shore may consider developing the St John's school, which it currently leases for youth programs, for its affordable housing program.

Outdoor Space and Buildings:

Presentations for a community life center are moving forward; discussions with members of the Select Board and key town employees continue. A request will be made to the Capital Improvement Committee for funds to hire a consultant to conduct a feasibility study.

Community and Health Services:

A subcommittee for the 2024 Healthy Aging Conference was formed; members include: J. McCormick, J. Nesbit, S. Sussman and H. Whear. Conference will focus on having an aging plan. Current conference themes include: financial, legal, mental health and medical. The subcommittee will meet on Tues Dec. 12, 6 pm, at Paradiso restaurant; all members of the SfAA are invited to attend.

Dementia training for town employees is complete. A grant application has been submitted to the MASS COA to train and implement the Purple Table Program at local restaurants.

The senior center is featuring the Opening Minds Through Art (OMA) program, which trains high school students to team with seniors living with dementia to create art projects. The six-session program began early November and will conclude with an art show and luncheon at the senior center on Dec. 15.

Other Business:

Future committee meetings will be held on the third Tuesday of month at 6 pm so as not to conflict with Select Board meetings.

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 19, 2023, 6 pm, Swampscott Senior Center.

Adjourn: 8:16 pm