

Swampscott COA Board Meeting

Minutes

November 9, 2021

In Attendance:

Maureen Callahan, Robert Powell, Barbara DiPietro, Heidi Whear, Marie Yannaco-Grant, Debora Newman, Molly Row and Kathy Kieser.

1. Minutes of October 12, 2021, moved by Debora Newman and seconded by Barbara DiPietro. Unanimously approved.
2. Marie Beaupre, the newly hired Administrative Assistant was introduced.
3. COVID UPDATE:
 - Social Distancing: 20 persons allowed to eat, 24 allowed in the dining room for activities (i.e., BINGO).
 - Masks must be worn at all times in the center.
 - 22 COVID cases in Swampscott.
 - Assisting with booster clinic, van to provide booster for two to start.
4. Kitchen:
 - Current limitations:
 1. Cooking limit due to oven and ventilation capacity – 24
 2. COVID seating limitation for distancing while eating - 20
 - Debora Newman suggested the option of staggered lunches.
 - Discussion of alternative options to be able to increase the number of elders being fed.
 - Heidi Whear asked if there were members willing to meet to explore options and report back to the board at the next meeting. Volunteers were Maureen Callahan, Debora Newman, Marie Yannaco-Grant and Heidi Whear.
5. Upcoming Events:
 - Talk About Town Series:
 - October- New School
 - November- Men's Club and Football Captains and Coaches
 - December- CBD, MD to lead the discussion.
 - Thanksgiving- Center to be closed noon on Wednesday, Thanksgiving Day and the next day. Two seatings for lunch on the 23rd.
6. High School Collaborations:
 - Students helping with Seniors' phones, Seniors reading to students and Tutoring provided to students.
7. Library Update:
 - Book swap to be developed and Book Club at the Senior Center.
8. Telemedicine Program:
 - Need for more van drivers for appointments.
 - Assistance with ZOOM calls with MDs and SWs.
 - Technology being developed at this time.

9. Swampscott for All Ages:
Revised "Action Plan" under development.
Friendly Chat Benches: Three outside COA and one to go to Doherty Circle. Benches to provide for less isolation.
10. Dementia Friendly Initiative:
Memory Cafe- has been virtual and moving toward in person.
Support Group.
Rides to ADH being provided,
Purple Reservation: Bring someone to Cafe Avelino with the challenges of Dementia and special accommodations to be provided. Exploration of a possible monthly meal to be set up.
11. Field Trips:
Christmas Light and Essex Tech for lunch.
12. YMCA Collaboration:
Brian Flynn, Director, wants to collaborate regarding programming for seniors. Space is available at the YMCA.
13. Report by Kathy Kieser: "Friends is doing well."
14. NEXT MEETING: Tuesday, December 14, 2021 @ 9:00 at the Senior Center.

Meeting adjourned at 10:05 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Yannaco-Grant