

# Swampscott Council on Aging Board Meeting

## Minutes February 8, 2022

In Attendance:

Marilyn Cassidy, Barbara DiPietro, Kathie Kieser, Deborah Newman, Jenn Nisbet, Robert Powell, Molly Rowe, Marie Yannaco-Grant and Heidi Whear.

Meeting called to order by Marilyn Cassidy at 9:04 AM.

Minutes of January 11, 2022 meeting review and approval.

Motion to approve by Barbara DiPietro, seconded by Molly Rowe.  
Unanimously Approved.

### 1. COVID Adjustments:

- Heidi reported
  - Masks are still required
  - People are asked to socially distance.
  - Classes are being offered via Zoom.
  - Food is still not being served, has not been served since the beginning of 2022
- Participants report they are excited to be back
- Discussion with board of the mask mandate, opinions offered. Heidi will be consulting with the Board of Health and fellow colleagues in the field. At this time, Center will keep masks in place and re-visit mandate in March.

### 2. TRIAD:

- Meeting to be held on 02/10.
- Triad consisting of representation from Police, Fire and Senior Center.
- Meetings to be convened monthly to collaborate on ways to keep seniors safely in their homes.
- Vial for Life to be distributed.
- Strong emphasis on safety education.

### 3. School Collaborations:

- Shoveling: Seven students shoveled for eight residents. Students who signed up will receive school credits/community service for shoveling. A new list of those to be shoveled is being re-created based on actual need. Original list was based on waiver.
- Black History Project: High School Group, Boys of Color, will be interviewing seniors on the Martin Luther King speech, "I Have A Dream". They will be asking where the interviewees were when they heard the speech and what were their reactions. Students are very excited about this project.
- Pen Pals: Third Graders wrote 20-25 letters. Middle School students created Valentines to go out with candy and MOW.

### 4. Library Collaboration:

- Pop-Up Library offered every Tuesday at the Center.
- Transportation to the library offered every Monday.7,800.

5. COA Promotion Grant:

- The \$7,800 Grant is to create a Resource Guide. The guide will highlight services and resources available to support you staying in your home.
- Guide due by late June.
- The eight page document will be mailed to every household in Swampscott.
- Plan is to also get a website up and functional.
- Resource Guide will include Dementia Resources.
- It is expected that additional funds will be needed.

6. Transportation:

- Interviewing for a per diem driver, now have two drivers, this will make the third.
- Mondays: Market Basket Mall in Salem and Library
- Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday: medical appointments.
- Thursday: Vinnin Square Area.
- Friday: Walmart.

7. Dining Room:

- Room is being built out with cameras for virtual meetings.
- Other organizations will be able to utilize the room.
- Friends has contributed \$2,000 toward the purchase of a smart TV.

8. Swampscott For All Ages:

- Discussion regarding inter-generational activities and community for active living.
- Board members suggested we navigate the options carefully.
- Suggested that the programs be specific to be able to manage the inter-generational mix.
- Year 1 Action Plan approved.
- Committee being downsized to 11-13 members going forward.
- Sea Glass Village going very well.

9. Introduction of new board member, Jenn Nisbet:

- Jenn gave a brief history of her time supporting and volunteering in agencies/schools in Swampscott. Welcome Jenn!

10. Annual Report 2020-2021:

- Document was distributed to all board members.
- Heidi gave a synopsis of the report.

11. Deb Newman spoke of meeting a possible speaker who is well versed in LGBTQ issues, in particular might lead a gender identity discussion. Heidi said this person might be match for Talk About Town.

12. Jenn Nisbet spoke of the 170th Anniversary Celebration. Suggested that the Senior Center might host a part of the celebration.

NEXT MEETING: March 8, 2022 @ 9:00.

Meeting Adjourned:

Marilyn Cassidy moved to adjourn the meeting. By unanimous vote the meeting adjourned at 9:58 AM EST.

Respectfully Submitted,

Marie Yannaco-Grant