

Swampscott COA Board Meeting
3:30 PM, 9/21/2021

In Attendance: Kathee Keiser, Marie Yannaco-Grant, Barbara DiPietro, Molly Rowe, Deb Newman, Maureen Callahan, Neal Duffy (Zoom), Marilyn Cassidy, Heidi Whear.

A. Old Business

1. Minutes of July meeting were reviewed and approved..
2. Our new Outreach Social Worker, Sabrina Clopton, was introduced to the board, following which she gave a brief resume.
3. Staffing changes
 - a. Dotti Kitoski retired, effective 9/1/2021.
 - b. The new Center Director will be Sonja Nathan, who will start on October 1.
 - c. The student volunteers have returned to school and hopefully we will be able to work out some new times with some of them.
4. As a Covid adjustment, masks are again required at the Center.
5. Rides and vans continue to be in use for shopping and medical appointments.
 - a. A question was raised as to the possibility of having the vans available for rides for seniors to various town events.
6. We continue to progress in the reopening of the Center as more activities are added..
7. Swampscott for all Ages
 - a. There will be a grand opening on October 15 at the Congregational Church
 - b. Alyce Dion will be the new Director.
 - c. So far 11 people have joined and 35 show interest.
 - d. A new community discussion called "Talk around Town" will be held with possibly 10 meetings. The plan is to have coffee and maybe muffins The first one will be led by Suzanne Wright on October 8. The discussion will be based on the new school.
 - 1). Deb Newman suggested that we later have another discussion led by someone with dissenting opinions on the school.

B. New Business

1. Some new Health Education classes will be presented, dealing with chronic disease, fall prevention and other health issues.
2. Report from The Friends by Kathee.
 - a. Working on a new fundraising drive.
 - b. Commented on how beautiful the gardens have looked all summer.

3. Discussion on The Compass revealed that the general opinion of the Board is that it is very difficult to follow and should be improved for seniors.
4. The question was raised as to whether or not we should have officers on the Board. Marilyn said that according to the by-laws, there is no provision for that. It will be investigated and discussed further.
5. We have 2 open seats on the Board. A discussion was held about having some diversity. We will endeavor to accomplish this by reviewing unused applications and new ones.

Meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM
Next meeting: October 12, 2021
8:30 AM
Zoom & in-person

Respectfully submitted,
Marilyn L Cassidy