Council on Aging Board Meeting – Thursday February 13, 2020

Call to order at 6:30 p.m.

Attendance - board members: JD Miller Co-Chair, Janice Lindblom, Caitlin Coyle, Lucille Sorrentino, Leslie James, associate board members, Pat Carlton and Barbara McFadden. Linda Hayes COA Director, Kathy Clarkeson COA Staff, Gordon Price and Elaine Schembari liaisons to FOSS.

Absent members: Henry Yeh, Susan Kelley, Maud Muelstee, Janice Desmond, Karen Canfield liaison to the Board of Selectmen, and Joan Powers liaison to South Shore Elder Services.

The minutes for January 2020 were edited and approved.

Director’s Report: Linda working with SSCAC re: rate increases for medical rides. Email communication continues via Constant Contact. Donation in the amount of $20,000 was accepted by the BOS from the estate of Marie Gillis via Maura McCann, an executor of the estate. COA Annual report submitted to TA’s office. Work continues on a Council on Aging Website. Scituate/Marshfield Rotary to financially support Aging Mastery Program. Programs ongoing: Tai Chi, Memory Training; new Strength Training being scheduled for March; possible resumption of Dance and Zumba in spring. Andrea Miller’s presentations of Climb to Glory and second film were well received. Linda plans to repeat in the Fall as a fundraiser. Continuing Souper Tuesdays through April, along with February plans for Valentine’s Lunch, Veteran’s Advisory Council breakfast meeting, and March plans for St Pat’s Day parade float on 3/15 and Dinner and Game Night 3/23.

Senior Center Project. Weekly meeting with Delphi Construction, Architects, OPM, Recreation. C-wing abatement scheduled, fencing is up, project sign planned for First Parish Rd.

Age-Friendly update. Postcards to solicit input, Survey Monkey on-line survey, Linda attended Farmer’s Market to distribute and inform. Focus groups planned for March/April.

Kathy Clarkeson presented the Transportation Report for January 2020. She discussed the extraordinary cost increase of providing out-of-town medical rides. Kathy is exploring alternative solutions.

Lisa Thornton’s report stressed the importance of volunteers, and provided an extensive list of additional needs for volunteers. January programs included: Andrea Miller, Art For Your Mind, No Rules Book Club, Memory Training, Ukulele Classes, Expressive Writing, Seniors Writing with Seniors. As a result, January scored the highest numbers of sign-ins for a January ever!

Jenny Gerbis reported 83 outreach interactions, with 35 Seniors being helped overall.

Karen Canfield sent along the following info. BOS approved the designation of Scituate as a Purple Heart Community; signs will be posted on roads. Athletic fields are on schedule. Construction updates are on the town website. Master plan for the town is in the works. BOS is considering letting the food pantry occupy part of Gates property. Water study ongoing.

FOSS held no meeting Jan or Feb; they are cancelling the March Spaghetti dinner event.

Gordon Price for FOSS: Sold 500 calendars. Prom event 4/26 at the River Club. $31,000 raised for the new building. Gordon will email COA board members re: meeting to create naming opportunities. The meeting adjourned at 8:10 pm.