

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING – THURSDAY JUNE 10, 2021

Meeting at SSC – Called to order at 5:36

Attendance: Board Members: J.D. Miller, Chair, Susan Drevitch Kelly, Vice-Chair, Leslie James, Janice Lindblom, Marie Fricker, Pat Carleton, and Laurie Brady. Linda Hayes, SSC Director; Joan Powers, Liaison to SSES; Elaine Schembari, Liaison to FOSS; Joanne LaFerrara, Director of Customer Relations w/GATRA were in attendance.

The minutes for the April 15, 2021 meeting were approved by the Board with a roll call vote.

Linda introduced Joanne LaFerrara who is the director of customer relations with GATRA. She informed us about Gatra On Demand. Currently 28 communities are using this program. This would be a town wide program that would work as a door to door ride. You would be able to schedule it as you would an Uber ride locally in town. It could also include places such as Stop and Shop or Shaw's. Discussion on ridership for Sloop vs on demand and shared rides. Fares would be \$2 each way.

Director's Report:

COA Director Linda Hayes reported that new van should be coming soon. Reported a lot of new people coming in to see the center. Things have been very busy. Programs that had been remote are now in the center. Jessica Souke has been hired as the new activities director @ 25 hours a week. It has been suggested that we have 2 suggestion boxes. One for activities and one for the building. The center was used as a cooling center for 2 days during the recent heatwave. A new food service manager was also hired. The center is hoping to start serving food in August. There has been ongoing testing of the outside lights and cameras. Fixing the exit on First Parish Road is the works. Also, working out how to schedule rooms and games for use and rentals. Discussion on car counting in parking lot for a period of 6 months. We are still waiting on a few pieces of furniture. Question asked about a computer room. Linda is researching best place for laptops to be used.

BOS, Karen Canfield – not in attendance

SSES, Joan Powers – Joan handed out an informative sheet on program enrollment, protective services, financial assistance programs, provider presence and overall home care spending for the town of Scituate. Also, new address for SSES is 350 Granite St, #2303 Braintree. Also, Joan informed us that there will be no Meals on Wheels on June 18th as Juneteenth is a Saturday.

FOSS/BAC, Elaine Schembari – Elaine gave us a report on BAC donations totaling approximately \$250,000. The monies will be presented at the Select Board meeting on June 22. Plaques are coming and donation board will be placed at entrance to the elevator. The new president of FOSS, Pauline Souther, was introduced by Elaine. We were also informed that Jean Young is the new vice president, Sarah Obert-Keefe is the new secretary, and Elaine is remaining as the treasurer.

New Business: Discussion about the new Visitor's Center in North Scituate and the possible use of seniors to volunteer to man the office during open hours. Seniors are able to volunteer 100 hours to receive \$1,275.00 off their real estate tax.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58pm

Next Meeting scheduled for July 8, 2021