

FREETOWN CLERK
REC'D FEB 9 2024 AM 9:20

Freetown Council on Aging
227 Chace Road, Freetown, MA 02717
Meeting Minutes
January 11th, 2024

Members Present: Robin Kendrick, Bruce Wilbur, Sonny Barros, Evelyn Alves, Ruth Ferland

Absent: Marion Rylands, Brenda Motta

Three Town residents were in attendance and Chief Rose

Call to Order

Robin Kendrick called the meeting to order at 1:05pm.

Secretary's Report

The meeting minutes from Nov. 21st, 2023 were reviewed. Bruce made the motion to accept the minutes and it was seconded by Sonny. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report

Bruce reviewed the regular budget and grants. No concerns at this time.

New Business

Discussion about the Veteran's Chair

- Background surrounding this topic provided by Rebecca. Explained that Town Hall is struggling for space and had asked if the Police Station would be able to display the POW Chair. Chief Rose had met with Rebecca to review his thoughts. Chief Rose was invited to speak.
- Chief Rose explained that the chair and flags could be used as weapons and he was not comfortable having the chair at the Police Station.
- Rebecca was in agreement with having the Veteran's Chair at the COA in our Veteran's corner as long as the Board was in agreement. Bruce felt the Veteran's Chair should stay at Town Hall. It was gifted to the Town and it would be seen by the most Town residents in it's current location. Board members indicated they all felt this way. However, if the chair needed to move, there was reluctant agreement to move it to the COA as long as the plan would be to move it back to Town Hall should they ever acquire additional space.
- Vote: Motion to approve moving the Veteran's Chair to the COA was made by Bruce and seconded by Robin. All in favor.

Notification of grant received from MCOA for a Nutrition Program

- A hot lunch will be served on Tuesdays in between chair yoga and Bingo
- A new stove has been purchased and delivered
- We have hired a chef and the menu is being planned out

Discussion surrounding use of Southcoast Community Foundation Grant

- The COA has roughly \$12,000 from this Foundation. Rebecca contacted them to see if the deadlines could be changed to the end of the year so it could fund an extension of our MCOA grant funded nutrition program. The MCOA Grant funds need to be spent prior to 6/30/24. The Southcoast Foundation was in agreement with this plan. Final report will be due in December.

Rebecca to Visit Upton's Combined COA/Library this month

- Upton has a brand new combined building and a visit is planned to take a tour with the Library's Director and members of the COA/Library Committee

Vote to Approve Senior Work Off List

- Bruce made a motion to accept the list. Ruth seconded the motion. All in favor.

Discussion and Vote to approve the May 30th Board Minutes

- Bruce made the motion to approve the minutes. Evelyn seconded the motion. All in favor.

Old Business

Written Policy for the Senior Profile Newsletter

- The Ethics Committee recommended we have a policy in place re: who can and can not advertise in our newsletter. Rebecca will reach out to other COA's for ideas.

Senior Housing

- It has been part of conversations with the Town but there are no current plans.

Vertical Platform Lift

- This has been included in the Town's proposal for an ADA Grant. If the Town does not receive this grant, the Board will need to decide if we still want to move forward.

Update on PODs

- Sonny presented on the layout of the PODs. All agree that preference would be for a clear space without columns even if that means the PODs are slightly smaller in size.

Motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Bruce and seconded by Sonny. All were in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebecca Frias

Director of the COA