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Council On Aging Board Meeting

Senior Center Community Room at the Bolton Country Manor, 600 Main St.

Event Date:

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 - 10:00am

Related Agenda

Council On Aging Board Meeting Agenda

Submitted on September 6, 2023 - 3:49pm

Date:

Tuesday, September 26, 2023 - 10:00am

Related Event:

[Council On Aging Board Meeting](#)

Council On Aging Board Meeting Agenda 9/26/23

10:00am -10:05am Citizen's Comments

10:05am - 10:15am Reading of Minutes from August 2023 COA Meeting

Approval of August 2023 COA Minutes

Financial Report

10:15 – 11:30pm FOBS Update

Outreach/Program Coordinator's Report

Other Board Concerns and Discussion

Source URL:<https://www.townofbolton.com/council-aging-coa/events/73721>

Town of Bolton C.O.A. Meeting
September 26, 2023

Meeting at the Senior Center

Members Present: Alice Roemer, Acting Chair; Barbara Brown, Tom Byron, Chuck McCormack, Corinne Mackie, Janet Smith, Molly Myers
Heather Goodsell, FOBS Mary Ciummo

A quorum being present, the meeting opened about 10:04 AM.

The minutes from the August COA meeting were approved as amended.

Lisa is working from home while recovering from surgery. A financial report will be provided later.

FOBS: Oct. 11 is the annual FOBS meeting. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. Tuesday Connections meal help prep will be needed in the coming months. Thanks to Heather for the October program.

A discussion followed regarding how can low-income seniors get help for the property tax increases that will occur following the approval of the new high school build. Perhaps a donations program similar to fuel assistance? Chuck proposed a special letter from the COA to State Rep. Kate Hogan seeking assistance. There is the STRP program, and the state circuit breaker is going up. Coordinate with Stow & Lancaster? If funds are provided thru FOBS, is relief sent to the town or to the person? Is there a tax liability? Chuck and Corinne will draft a letter.

Heather's Outreach report: See handout and Oct. newsletter that just arrived. Mary reports that the Tuesday Connections with meals is one of the best attended events, Heather indicated that the picnic on the patio is also well attended. The MART pilot is ok and the tablet is working well. New Programs: National Grid is coming. Monthly: a grief support group, SHINE, State Senator Kennedy's team. Fuel assistance requests are coming in. Covid and flu shots will be coming available. Christmas Lunch Dec. 5th. Molly asked if there are any projects for 4th grade girl scouts to do. Note: the Halloween walk is Oct. 28, plan for it next meeting.

Chuck reported that the new Senior Center sign is on hold until after the new construction chaos is over.

Regarding Lisa, she will probably be working from home until November.

Next COA meeting is October 24.

The meeting adjourned at 11:05.

Respectfully submitted: Tom Byron

September COA Meeting Minutes
Outreach/Programs Minutes

Upcoming October Programs-

10/10 Craft Class

10/11 Picnic on the Patio

10/12 Coffee w/Sen. Robyn Kennedy

10/17 Tuesday Connections

10/24 Growing Places Market

10/25 Movie Matinee

10/26 Cultural Series Trip

10/26 Book Club

10/31 Halloween Party

Flu shot clinic with Nashoba Board of Health is on Monday 10/16 from 3-6pm at Nashoba. Pre-registration is required. I am available to help any senior who needs help registering online.

During one of our 20K subcommittee meetings the idea of a cultural series on our MART van was discussed. It was a great idea that is coming into fruition. In October we will be visiting New England Botanic Gardens at Tower Hill and in November we will head to The American Heritage Museum. These trips will be to more local places that are still very much worth visiting. Some other places I plan to book are Groton Hill Music, Worcester Art Museum, Museum of Russian Icons, etc.

I have begun to book our 3rd bus trip of the fiscal year. I am working on booking Newport Playhouse for December 13th. More details to follow.

MART pilot group- New versions of the app are being released this week. This should take care of the "bugs" that have been found and make the booking side of things more efficient.

Several new programs in the works- National Grid will be doing a program about how to save money on your bill during the winter and talk about options for meeting one on one with an outreach member to discuss personal logistics, Nashoba Board of Health will begin a monthly grief group to help those who have suffered a loss. They will also be available to meet one on one with those who don't feel like a group setting would work for them, Although we are still making a lot of referrals to Integrity Medicare Advisors, a SHINE counselor will begin to come to the center monthly to meet with clients too. We have not had access to an in person SHINE counselor since before the pandemic. Monthly office hours with Sen. Kennedy's team will also begin monthly. They are looking forward to being able to meet constituents and help with needs and concerns.

I have already begun to receive calls inquiring about fuel assistance. I have a feeling this is going to be a very busy year. MOC has not sent our recertifications, which is late compared to when New England Farm Workers ran the program. This will likely cause delays in people receiving payments.