

**TOWN OF BOURNE
BOURNE VETERANS MEMORIAL COMMUNITY/SENIOR CENTER
COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MINUTES OF 3/23/23**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Marilyn Jackson, Bev Armando, Barbara Scott, Sandra Barnard, Wendy Welsh, Eda Cardoza

MEMBERS PRESENT via ZOOM: Julie Dateo, Gerri Parham Andos, Jean Hills

ABSENT MEMBERS: None

EXCUSED MEMBERS: None

OTHER PRESENT: Debi Oliviere, Kari Phinney, Arne Carr, Nathan Carr

Meeting called to order at 11:07 a.m.

MINUTES:

Minutes of 2/16/23 were amended to include Jean Hills as present. Upon a motion made by Beverly and seconded by Eda, the board unanimously voted to approve the minutes of 2/16/23 into record.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Arnie Carr

Friends Psychic Fair is planned for June 17th at the Community Center.

Food Pantry has seen an increase from 117 to 130 households at the same time last year with 256 individuals for the month. Over the past few years, 1000 individuals have signed up. An expected increase in services is anticipated.

OUTREACH: Kari read the highlights from the Outreach reports.

- **Kari and Meghan attended various meetings and trainings.**
- **Kari and Meghan participated in Veterans coffee, Walk and Talk, and Elders at Risk**
- **Kari and Meghan attended SNAP Benefits training and VNA meeting via Zoom.**
- **Kari and Meghan also attended Affordable Connectivity Meetings and MassHealth training. Kari arranged for 2 people from Comcast-Affordable Connectivity program to review the application process for their program with Kari and Meghan. They met with and completed applications for 11 clients giving them a \$30 discount off their internet.**
- **Kari did one Knox box and safety check.**
- **Kari and Meghan completed 5 fuel assistance applications.**

- Meghan helped clients with applications to connect with Bourne Housing. Also connected a few clients with SCCLS to assist with housing issues.
- Meghan also participated in Connection Café and Coffee Talk with Sherrie.
- Meghan is halfway through the Case Management Certificate Program and on track to finish by June.
- Kari explained Veterans coffee – started last June average 20 per month. Sometime have a speaker sometime not. Kari and Guy run meeting when no speaker. Veterans socialize, share stories and have breakfast. Mostly older clients. Deb informed that this is funded by a grant.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT: Debi read the highlights from the Director's report.

- Deb announced that the numbers are better than last year at this time. More seniors are returning.
- 1072 check ins. Programs beginning to pick up are Trivia, and Movie
- Deb explained Sherrie's classes include Drum Circle, chair yoga, sound meditation and dementia friendly chair exercise and Reiki.
- Deb attended: Department Head Meeting, Senior Tax Work Off team meeting, VNA of Cape Code Meeting, Staff Meeting, BOD meeting, Board of Assessors Meeting, MCOA-New Directors training and COAST meeting.
- MCOA Board training will be held April 19th in Harwich and May 3rd in Duxbury. Board Members are strongly encouraged to attend the 2 hour training on either date.
- Upcoming programs include: Spring Craft Class hosted by the COA Crafters, Therapy Gardens Chocolate Tasting and Beginner Spanish Classes. Men's Fitness will be returning to Fridays starting in May. Bus trips are scheduled to New Bedford Whaling Museum, Highfield Hall & Gardens, and Woods Hole Science Aquarium. Beginner Computer Classes will be provided by Elder Services of Cape Code and Islands. Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast will be on June 8th at 9:30 in Café to honor 3 retiring volunteers. Matt York will return on June 21st with the Songs of Johnny Cash – funding provided by Bourne Cultural Grant.

OTHER BUSINESS:

- MCOA Board training – April 19th in Harwich or May 3rd in Duxbury. Marilyn talked about her positive experience with other COA members.
- Tai Chi will be starting on Tuesdays in May. New instructor. Cost \$7.
- Benches will not be replaced in front of the community building due to misuse.

- Jean asked about Ethics Training. Debi advised that it is required to be taken every two years. (The town does not remind.) Debi will send out link for training.
- Marilyn attended the Friends meeting in February. They received \$38,000 in donations from the Polar Plunge and dinner after at The Weary Traveler.
- Valley Farms on County Road has plots available for growing food for the Food Pantry. Volunteers are needed.
- Debi explained COA Board quorum requirement is between 7 and 11 members.

OLD BUSINESS

- Marilyn welcomed Wendy Welch as a new board member.
- Marilyn informed the board that Lorraine Young resigned as an alternate board member. She will be honored at the volunteer lunch along with 2 other long-time volunteers.

Upon a motion duly made by Sandy and seconded by Beverly, the board unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 11:43 am.

Respectfully submitted,

**Linda J. Rush
Administrative Assistant**