

**Council on Aging Minutes for Virtual Meeting on May 11, 2022. Approved July 27, 2022.**

The meeting was called to order at 5:34 p.m. A roll call identified those present: JoAnn Bernhard (JB), Susan Gomberg (SG), Janis Gray (JSG), Susan Millinger (SPM), and Linda Avis Scott (LAS). Absent: Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil.

**Minutes of the Meeting of April 13, 2022:** A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed by a roll call vote to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 13, 2022 as presented.

**Business:**

**Updates:**

**Financial Update:**

**Review of expenses:**

Remaining as of April 4, according to the Accountant: \$5,302.71

Less \$140 for April FootCare expenses

Less \$230 for May FootCare expenses

Less \$1040 for Kathy Sward's classes

Leaves: \$3,892.71

Less committed funds: \$3, 162.71 (Committed funds=\$430 allocated for FootCare, \$300 already committed for Library programs.)

A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously passed by a roll call vote to fund the Library Director's request for \$670 to purchase passes to Mass MOCA (\$250) and Magic Wings Butterfly Conservatory (\$420 for two passes) both of which are very popular.

This additional \$670 would leave \$2,492.71.0

**Foot Clinic:** No recent update; no change in situation (that is, the COA continues to support home visits by FootCare by Nurses).

**The Geezette:** Discussion of content and factors influencing date of publication.

**Content:**

- There is available material, which JSG had to cut from *Our Town* because of lack of space.
- Concern was expressed about timeliness of information about LifePath's new Farm to Home Food Program. Can the information be sent out via Town Announce and put on the COA website? It could be added to information about the Amherst Survival Center's program of food for seniors, as well as the HIP program that JSG and SPM reported on.
- COA needs to check with the Police Chief to see whether she has anything to add.

For *The Geezette*, COA needs a new spread sheet of seniors in town; the Town Clerk has the information.

**Possible dates of publication:** If the information on LifePath's Farm to Home goes out on Town Announce and the COA website, there is less pressure to publish right away. *Our Town* comes out in October, so we wouldn't publish a second newsletter then. Yet it will take time to produce a new spread sheet of seniors in town. Would July or August work?

LAS reminds the Council of the usual procedure the COA follows, asking the Editor, Sally Fairfield, to talk about possible articles. Sally has told the COA she is happy to write articles but does not wish to lay out the newsletter. The COA is very thankful that JSG, an experienced producer of newsletters, volunteered to take over this task. Sally is to be asked to attend this meeting.

**Municipal Vulnerability Program Grant:** The Municipal Vulnerability Program (MVP) has asked the COA for a letter of support for an action grant application. The first grant the Town received produced the MVP plan for Shutesbury. Now an application is being made for an action grant. The request came to the COA on April 28, leaving only a short window for producing the required letter. LAS read us the very good letter she wrote.

**Training and Resources:**

- LifePath's Farm to Home Food Program
- Senior Medicare Patrol sent us information about a free virtual seminar on June 28. The program will focus on payment rules for ambulance transportation: it looks as though its focus is on professionals. LAS will forward the information and call to see if a recording will be available.
- Reminder: LGBTQI required training: SG has taken it and described it briefly. JSG will resend us the link we were originally sent by JB in February. All COA members need to take it by the end of June.

**Membership:** The terms of four COA members expire at the end of June: JB, JSG, MM-O and SPM. All in attendance indicated that they wished to continue.

**Motion to adjourn** was made, seconded and carried unanimously by a roll call vote. The meeting was adjourned at 6:24.

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 15 at 4:00 p.m.**

Susan Millinger, Secretary