

Council on Aging Minutes for Virtual Meeting of January 10, 2024

Approved meeting of February 14, 2024

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. A roll call identified those present: JoAnn Bernhard (JB), Martha Favre (MF), Janis Gray (JSG) and Susan Millinger (SM). Jeanette Stockton (JS) was absent.

Minutes of the Meeting of December 2023: Will come to the February meeting.

Business:

Financial Update:

Carry over from FY 23: \$ 959.43
½ of EOE grant in Oct 2023): \$3,997.00 (1/2 delivered in October 2023)
\$4,956.43

Expenditure to date;

Foot Clinic: \$1,122.00
MCOA dues: \$ 265.00
Library Fitness classes: \$1,485.00
Village Neighbors grant: \$1,000.00
Smartphone classes: \$ 100.00
Total spent first six months FY24 \$3,972.00

Funding Remainder;

Unspent: \$ 984.43
½ EOE grant to come \$3,997.00
Available to spend: \$4,981.43

Anticipated expenditures:

FootCare (estimated): \$1,122.00.
Fitness Classes: \$1,500.00
Geezette (one issue;est)\$ 800.00
Total \$3,422.00

Remainder available to be spent:

(Remaining funding less anticipated expenditures: **estimated: \$1,559.43**)

Website Problem: More on the new tabs which JSG has created. Members have been unable to access the tabs on the COA website using an Iphone. Gail Fleischaker, the chair of the Web Communication Committee will try with an Android phone and see if that can access the tabs.

Ageing- and Dementia-Friendly Action Plan: The COA needs to get in touch with LifePath to see who we should contact. Who will take the lead on this? Who will contact us?

Getting in touch with Shutesbury's seniors has been a major challenge; we could use help. Should the COA consider personal contacts by phone or visits?

Transportation issues: discussion of possible grant opportunities. JB suggests providing a letter to the Select Board for them to sign to request the On Demand service.

Peace of Mind Binder: In the December meeting, MF was asked to show the Binder to a lawyer for an opinion. She contacted Holly Armitage who said it was fine and a good idea.

Can it be included in the next issue of the *Geezette*? JSG said that if we have a 12-page issue, the middle four pages, which could be detached, could contain the Peace of Mind binder.

March meeting guest: MF has asked a LifePath representative to join our March meeting and explain the services they offer; this would provide an opportunity to ask about a contact for Life-Path's Aging- and Dementia-Friendly project. Members were asked to think about questions to ask about LifePath. What are the limitations of who can receive its services? Is the Aging- and Dementia-Friendly Communities program open to all residents of LifePath's service area?

Next Geezette Issue: In order to avoid publishing the next issue too close to the Town's *Our Town*, JSG will contact the Town Administrator to see when the latter is scheduled.

Contents: MF will interview the new Public Health nurse, Sarah Fiske; SM has set up an interview with the Foot Clinic nurse, Nan Mead.

Unanticipated Items: SM asked whether former member Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil should be made an Honorary Member of the COA. JB will ask Melissa if she'd like this.

Need for additional members: Current members brainstormed about people who could be invited to attend to see if they'd like to join. Suggestions: Nancy Logan, Jessica Makepeace, Steve Rice, Graham Septon, Stephen Dellmus, Fritz Farrington.

For the Next Meeting:

- Work on the Geezette. Ideally have the two interviews and the Peace of Mind Binder
- Honorary membership for Melissa
- Think about some goals of the Action Plan that Shutesbury COA would like to be involved with.

Annual Report. *A motion to approve the Annual Report for FY23 is made, seconded, and passed by a unanimous roll call vote.*

Next Meeting: February 14 at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment: *Motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded and passed by a unanimous roll call vote.* The meeting was adjourned at 6:48 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Millinger, Secretary