

HOLLISTON COUNCIL ON AGING

Minutes of Regular Monthly Meeting

March 13, 2024 – 2:00PM

Members Present:

In Person: Yvette Cain, Kathy Anguish, Lynne Bajdek, Peter Eagan, Georgia Papavasiliou

Remote: Carmen Chiango

Absent: Janet Alexander

Guest: Chris Cain

Staff Present: Lisa Borchetta

Call to Order:

The hybrid meeting was conducted in person in the Senior Center classroom, as well as on line via Zoom. With a quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 2:02PM.

Public Comments:

This meeting was scheduled one hour later (2:00 pm) because of the St. Patrick's Day Luncheon.

Approval of Minutes:

Wording regarding the high school was amended per Yvette to read ... state to cover 40% of total cost of contract, estimated total cost \$180M. The minutes were then unanimously approved.

Director's Report- Lisa Borchetta:

Building Issues: As a follow-up to the town meeting approval for an architectural building survey, the first architect who will be submitting a bid on the project visited the center last week with James Keast. These will be more visits.

Grants (on going):

EOEA – Supportive Social Day Program grant – applied for \$15,620 for planning purposes. Lisa is working with Cynthia to plan a memory Café.

EMHOT (Due May 20) “Elder Mental Health Outreach Team” is in process. Lisa is working with Cynthia to define and outline needs and direction.

MA Formula Grant: The Formula Grant report was submitted. There are some current lobbying effort to increase their grant from the current \$14/pp to \$15/pp. No definitive decision yet.

Grant (Update):

MWHF (Metro West Health Foundation) still has approximately \$3000 remaining from a previous technical assistance/training grant. Lisa is looking to utilize those funds with new programs. Requesting funds from SSF for Kevteh Back to Basics on iPhone. Also looking for more training on tablets, tutoring in any basic technology.

Staff Updates: We are continuing to advertise for part-time van drivers, up to 19 hours a week. training provided.

Assistant Director – Laura Parmensi:

Volunteer Updates:

Two new volunteers are now on board.

LGBTQ+ required group training will take place in March for seven people.

The February 23rd Volunteer Training went very well with 14 participating. Discussions were about mission, vision and best practices for serving the Holliston community.

Day Trips:

Cape Ann Trip – Thursday, April 25th from 9:45 AM to 7:00 PM from Bloom Tours. There is still available space on this trip.

There are opportunities for day and/or overnight trips (no deposit required).

Day trips, lunch and a show. There is only a two person minimum.

Overnight trips, ranging from 8 day excursions, including airfare, to a one night stay. 10 person minimum.

These trips will be posted.

New programs {possible):

Learn the Computer: This is a 4-6 week course.

Additional iPhone Tech classes paid for through MWHF. Classes being considered: iPhone for Health and Emergencies, Setting and Navigation of iPhone and iPad, Travel and Finance on iPhone for Uber, Instacart and Venmo, Taking and Organizing photos on iPhone and iPad.

Outreach/Transportation Coordinator – Cynthia Listewaik

Forwarded 3 applications for ADA transportation.

Ongoing case management support for 4 residents.

Provided meal delivery options to those impacted by the sun-setting of our meal delivery program.

Advocated and supported 2 people with fuel assistance issues with SMOC involving Rep. James Aren-DeRosa's office.

5 people received grab bars, smoke and CO2 detectors through the Senior Safe Program.

Cynthia performed one home visit.

17 pieces of equipment were loaned out last month to individuals.

Cynthia had engagement with 46 phone/office/correspondence with 41 individuals.

3 programs were initiated in collaboration with Laura: nutrition screening, art/social event and an exercise program.

Provided consultation and affordable house resources for 2 individuals.

Provided consultation and resources to 4 families to support their parents to age in place or to pursue alternative housing options.

Added 3 Outreach meetings to share resources and concerns.

Had 2 training sessions with Bryan Perkins from My Senior Center.

Laura is In an ongoing care management training certificate program through BU.

Administrative Assistant – Debbie Dupuis

Transportation has been very busy in February for a number of reasons, including a “Ride Free” promotion by MWRTA. The taxi grant continues to be a great service for those needing to travel outside our catchment area.

New Business

SSF Requests:

Garden Committee \$132, Prism Coffee Hour \$20, Spot on Physical Therapy \$50/class \$250, Mediterranean Diet Lunch and Learn \$350, Sound Bowl Reiki Meditation \$150, Line Dancing \$300. May events: Veteran’s Coffee \$20, Select Chat \$20, HPD Coffee \$20, Monthly Breakfast \$100, Lunch and a Documentary \$120. Total \$1482.00. This was unanimously approved.

300th Anniversary. Carmen will look into having a space for seniors/handicap individuals to view the parade in comfort. Maybe a tent, available water, etc.

Old Business

Rebranding Subcommittee Update. 7 renaming choices were presented to the committee to vote on. Of the 7 choices the top two were The Center in Holliston (13 votes) or just The Center (6 votes) . Holliston Center for Active Living received (4 votes) The Center for Active Living (5 votes) and the Center for Lifelong Living (2 votes). Two other names received no votes. The subcommittee was meeting again on March 13 to plan their next move. This was tabled until next month.

FY25 Budget Update: Fully approved.

Envision Future Holliston: Peter gave a brief update. The committee will meet next month. Available on the website are the Final Strategic plan and how it will be traced. Also, budget tracking is available. Video interviews will become available next month.

The next meeting is April 10, 2024 at 1:00 pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:20 pm. Unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathleen Anguish

