

Council on Aging Board of Directors Meeting

January 19, 2023

Present: Director Jim Leydan, Chair Sandra Macfadyan, Vice Chair George Shea, Secretary Ellie Tyson, Saul Finestone, Ron Johnson, Rose Morace, Julia Moulton, Derek Parr, Stephan Platzer, Candace Serafino, Maryann Squier, Eleanor Stolar, Judy Yaffe, Stephan Platzer

Absent: Marie Angelides, Marjorie Morgan

Guest: Robin Frechette, select board liaison Tom Lachiusa, Lynn Simon, Captain Mazzaferro and Daniella Rex from the Longmeadow Police Department. FOLOCA represented by Roger Wojak

- I. **Welcome:** The meeting started at 9:30am.
- II. **Approval of minutes:** A correction by Tom Lachiusa from December minutes: a rate change should be \$22.96 not currently \$25.00 in section (a). December minutes were than approved.
- III. **Reports:**
 - a. **Select Board:** Tom noted that a smoke test would be performed in the sewers. There will be a primary election February 7th for an open seat on the select board. The election date is March 7th. There is also a request for a zone change by Armata's on the property next to the store not zoned commercial. Also, a contes for a picture on the cover of the annual town report.
 - b. **State Representative:** There are 1,959 bills already filed! One of those bills, Chapter 271, section 22c, the playing of recreational games or any card game of chance. This bill would override having to require a permit which is now in effect. One would only be able to win up to \$20.00.
 - c. **Director's:** Jim asked for any questions regarding the packet he had passed out. The packet also included the treasurer's report. George asked about the salaries under the report and could Jim be more specific regarding salaries instead of one lump sum. Jim stated he would have that information at our next meeting. Also, a question regarding the COA donations. Jim stated these funds go into the COA account.
 - d. **Treasurer's:**
 - e. **FOLOCA:** No one attended the meeting as it was held on a different day.
- IV. **New Business:**
 - a. Longmeadow Police Department: Captain Mazzaferro and Danielle Rex from the Longmeadow Police Department spoke regarding programs offered by the department. Once such program is called Citizens Academy, an 8-week program with each week a different topic. It will begin in October for ages 18-21 years and held evenings at 5:30pm. He noted that the Longmeadow Police Department was the only accredited one in Hampden County. A program for seniors to become familiar with officers in town is being considered. Also a program on how to keep safe in your home. A question of not finding house numbers especially at night if needed. George suggested a plaque at the end of driveways with house numbers. Could we have a program regarding scams and Judy said she could help set up one on dementia. Stephen asked if Longmeadow had much domestic violence. The answer was no. Rose wondered about all the miss information on the internet. We should call the department to report it as they have units that investigate this. The officers passed out booklets on identity theft.

- b. GSSSI: No one from the COA is on their board. Is there anyone interested in the position? George mentioned that he would think about it. Rose described her tenure on the board and that money for grants is donated thru GSSSI.
- c. Foot care service: We had an on-site program for foot care, but the company we used no longer comes. There is a problem with the person who is doing the nails, people are unable to reach her to make appointments. The council voted unanimous for Jim to look for a new company.
- d. JCC: Since the JCC fire we are working with people from the JCC to provide temporary facility usage to their members.

V. **Old Business:**

- a. Medical Loan: Looking for a place to store medical equipment. Rose noted we had this program for years. The fire department opted not to use their facility. The JGF also does not want the responsibility for the cleaning and storage of the equipment. Robin noted the concern for the liability for the town regarding the usage of the equipment. Rose: we will table this business until next month as the committee will continue to try to find a location.
- b. COA FY 24 budget: Jim stated they were working on the 2024 budget. He is also working on getting stipends for gas for the Meals on wheels drivers.
- c. Adult Center: Maryann wondered why the TV by the office doesn't show upcoming programs. Jim noted that with pickleball, people needed the diagram posted for times and space used to play.
- d. Programming: Recommendations on new programs. The software is managed by IT. Not off the table to go back to the way it was roving pictures of up-coming programs. Jim wondered if we could offer religious programs. This would entail educational aspects of different religions.
- e. Policy Discussion: Sandy passed to each of us the Longmeadow Adult Center Policies booklet for comments from us on either changes or revisions to the booklet. She would like it returned by February 1st.
- f. Board Member Comments: FOLOCA, at this time, pays for postage of the voice. Would it be possible for the COA to pay the postage? Judy wanted to table this until next month for Jim to look into the request. Also, Jim is looking for a manager for the food pantry.

VI. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:20am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellie Tyson