

Council on Aging Board of Directors

April 20, 2023

**Present:** Director Jim Leydan, Chair Sandra Macfadyen, Vice Chair George Shea, Secretary Ellie Tyson, Saul Finestone, Derek Paar, Stephan Platzer, Maryann Squier, Eleanor Stolar, Marjorie Morgan, Julia Moulton, Rose Morace, Candace Serafino, Judy Yaffe

**Absent:** Marie Angelides

**Guest:** Robin Frechette, from FOLOCA; Bill Moray and Sharon Connor from GSSSI.

- I. **Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** The March minutes were approved. I as secretary, resigned my position and the position will be on the September ballot. Thank you for your support throughout these many years.
- III. **Reports:**
  - Select Board:** Tom Lachiusa our select board liaison was unable to attend the meeting.
  - State Representative:** Robin noted the FY24 house budget was \$56.2 billion. Some of representative Ashes filed amendments: Baystate Wellness on wheels, Revitalize the CDC, Rachel's Table, Town of Longmeadow sports fields. Revenue from millionaires' tax will go toward education 50% universal free school lunch, and updates to aging schools and 50% to transportation, META infrastructure. There is a total of 1,566 amendments filed to the house budget.
  - Director's:** Jim noted that 128 new people applied for membership during the month of March. We will continue to have pickleball indoors during the summer. The cost is \$2.00 for residents, \$3.00 for non-residents. Check your packet for other information.
  - Treasurer's:** Please check your April treasurers report for information.
  - FOLOCA:** Eleanor is our representative. Bill Morey is FOLOCA's representative to our board and stated that they have provided 16 thousand pounds of food for our pantry. Anyone in need is welcome. Also, on August 3<sup>rd</sup> they are sponsoring an outdoor concert at the center.
- IV. **Old Business:**
  - a. Special meetings- 2 motions: Saul introduced these motions. Motion 1 was defeated as a quorum was needed and the motion did not have it. Sandy will be appointing a nomination committee of three members for the nomination for officers of the board. A discussion regarding special meetings, these meetings can be held if 3 members of the board request a special meeting during the summer. Otherwise, it would require a change in our by-laws as June, July, and August we do not have monthly meetings. In order to change the by-laws, it would have to be brought before the select board.

- b. **Medical Loan equipment:** Candace noted they were making progress with the program. The JCC will store the equipment, Earl Godfrey will make the deliveries. Rose will be the point person for the center. The details are being worked out. There will be a revised form that will be signed for the use of any equipment.
- c. **Nutrition Program:** Jim spoke regarding the cost; instead of \$3.50 for residents, to charge \$4.00 for all. He noted many centers have had to raise funds due to high food prices. Also, for the meals on wheels drivers a compensation to drivers to pay for gas.
- d. **Board Members:** No comments were made.

V. **New Business:**

**Sharon Connor:** Sharon Connor from the board of GSSSI will be our liaison to GSSSI. She lives in Longmeadow and has social work involvement. She noted that the GSSSI takes one month off during the summer. It was noted that we have always had a member of our board on the GSSSI board. Sandra said she would be a member of our board with no voting power.

**Newsletter Distribution:** FOLOCA has been paying for the cost of mailing the voice but can no longer do this. The cost is \$1,200 per month. Bill noted that the maple tree shop generated approximately \$18,000 a year and they no longer have that resource. There are options to be considered, one being picking up your newsletter at the center, or you could access it online. This will start in September.

**Food Pantry:** A part-time manager is to be hired for the pantry. This will be 15 hours per week.

- IV. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Tyson