Meeting of the Northborough Council on Aging October 10, 2023 – 5:30PM – Northborough Senior Center

As the hub for all aspects of healthy aging, the mission of the Northborough Council on Aging/Senior Center is to enrich and enhance the lives of older adults.

Call to Order: A meeting of the Council on Aging of the Town of Northborough was called to order at 5:30 PM by Paula Moore, Chair with the following also present:

Alli DellaRovere Member Ron Doucett, Friends Linda Cragin, Member Henry Squillante, Friends

Theresa Lee, Member Joan Frank, School Committee rep. Virginia Simms George, Member Mitch Cohen, Chair, Select Board Elizabeth Nasser, Member Lisa Dalrymple, Senior Center Rep.

The following COA members were not present: Adrienne Cost, Jerry Anderson, Fran Bakstran; Kendra Faldetta, Director was on vacation.

1. Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes for the September 2023 meeting were approved.

2. Friends Report:

Ron provided the Friend's report. Nine bricks will be installed in the walkway, including a memorial for Agnes and Miles. The Friends are preparing for the County Fair on November 18th from 10-3. This will also be the kick-off for the calendar raffle that will occur in January 2024. The Annual Appeal will be held in late fall/early winter and a Quilt raffle is planned.

3. Director's Report:

Kendra was on vacation and Lisa shared her report. The Applefest luncheon was well attended and three bakers were thrilled to win. Many activities have been popular a including addressing hearing loss, a presentation on Parkinson's disease, guided weight loss (with a wait list of 20 people for the next session) and several volunteers were interested in training service dogs following a NEADS presentation. The food pantry collection went very well and was cleared out in two days. Plans for Trunk and Treat, pumpkin decorating, a Diwali Festival, the Veterans luncheon, Mass Wildlife presentation and November dinner are underway.

The Governor visited the Senior Center the day before to promote the new tax bill and the Senior Center was featured in the Blue Cross/Blue Shield Fall newsletter Healthy Times.

4. WRTA:

Recruitment continues – several offers were extended but no one showed up for the training.

5. Springwell (formerly Bay Path):

No Report.

6. Old/New Business and Community Awareness:

- Joan Frank offered some ideas for collaboration with the schools including touring the new athletic facility at the high school with a free lunch, attending the dress rehearsal of the musicals, providing service hours for National Honor Society students, and a presentation on the budget process for the schools.
- Virginia offered some ideas with Assabet Voc, including cosmetology and the Epicurean.
- Mitch provided some updates on the Selectboard meetings including plans to go hybrid to continue to encourage participation, and the recruitment steps for the town administrator.

The meeting adjourned at 6:30 pm.

Linda Cragin