

**Meeting of the Northborough Council on Aging  
April 13, 2021 5:15 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 5:15 PM via Zoom by Adrienne Cost, Chair with the following also present and introduced:

Linda Cragin, Member  
Jerry Anderson, Member  
Muriel Swenor, Member  
Phylis Muthee, Member

Lee Beavers, Member  
Kerrie Martinek, Friends  
Liz Tretiak, Director

The following COA members were not present: Virginia Simms George, Member, Tim Kaelin, Board of Selectman, Joan Frank, School Committee Liaison

**2. Approval of the Minutes:**

The minutes for the February 2021 meeting were approved.

**3. Friends Report**

Kerrie Martinek provided a report on the Fund Drive to collect textiles, clothes, etc. with funding from Savers May 1-17. This is postponed due to the Senior Center being used as a vaccination site. Other ideas for fund raising include a car wash, corn hole tournament, plus the Country Store Fair.

**4. Chair's (Director's) Report**

Liz and Jocelyn have completed Dementia Champion training, so they are now trained and certified to teach others. The van drivers have also received training. Liz also shared the monthly stats which show a significant increase in March. The stats do not reflect the many pandemic-related phone calls that staff have responded to. The American Rescue Plan includes funding for the Older Americans Act and Home and Community Based Services which may filter down to the COA.

Liz is looking for volunteers to help implement a community recognition "Notable Event" campaign using the Boston Post Cane. Northboro is fortunate to have the original cane which will be viewable in a case at the Senior Center.

A focus of the meeting was on the re-opening plans for the Center. Liz reviewed a detailed, thoughtful plan for indoor and outdoor activities, the Bistro, etc. The Center has been closed for so long, Liz has ideas on how to bring people back including a Welcome banner, hand-written notes to introduce activities, etc. Liz is also looking at plans to maximize outdoor space include the installation of an umbrella over the back patio.

**5. WRTA**

Payment was received by WRTA. The contract for FY22 is in discussion.


**6. Bay Path**

Bay Path continues to be in a good financial shape. COVID has had an impact on home services and nursing home placement have decreased.

**7. Old/New Business and Community Awareness**

Adrienne asked for nominations from the floor and presented a slate of officers: Herself for chair, Muriel for vice chair and Linda for secretary. The slate was voted and approved.

The meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm.

  
Linda J. Cragin  
Sec.