COA BOARD of DIRECTORS

Meeting Minutes – August 9, 2023

Attending: Gary Newton, Cindy Brennan, Elaine Hyland, Rosanne Carlo, Louise Currie, Kathy Bussolari, Joseph Bussolari, Thelma (Jean) Douglas, Roger Davenport, Maria Malinowski, Carol Byrne (Resident)

(ABSENT): Beatrice Taggart, Sandra Lemieux, Rosanne Carlo

1. Meeting called to order
2. Minutes of July 19, 2023 were approved and voted unanimously
3. Treasurer’s report unanimously accepted. Cindy indicated we are well within our budget given we are at the beginning months of the new the fiscal year. Abington Savings Bank held a Jean’s Day fundraiser and for the second year in a row they donated the amount to the COA ($275).
4. Elaine Hyland provided the COA Board with an update on the status of the feasibility study of the old JFK School. The design of Option A is completed and the next step is to meet with the Architects and develop and present further refinement of schematic possibilities for the COA use of the JFK School. Per the Select Board Chair (Katie Goldrick) they are awaiting the appointment of a new Interim Town Administrator and then a meeting will be scheduled with Habeeb & Associates to review their presentation. Cindy Brennan, Elaine Hyland, Patty Conway (SB), the Town Administrator and an individual from DPW are part of the group that meets with the Architects.
5. Cindy reached out to other COA’s to inquire how their buildings were designed and what other entities they share space with. Ones that replied indicated they built their COA’s separately and didn’t like the concept of shared space.
6. Jean Douglas received a partial Grant ($241.00) for safety upgrades to the inside of our vans. So far, we have purchased 2 Igloo coolers to store waters and if need be refrigerated medications.
7. One van was used this month to transport Seniors to the Food Pantry vs. 2 Vans last month. Holbrook visits the Pantry at 10:00am, Avon 10:30am, and a second Van at 11:00am (if needed).
8. We are in the process of securing another Van Driver and the request is being addressed at the Select Board meeting on August 9, 2023.
9. Rotary Cookout – August 28th at 6:00pm at Holbrook Court. Sign-up is required.
10. Cindy made the following announcements of upcoming events:
11. JFK Museum (Boston) – September
12. Evening Line Dancing – one Thursday a month at 6:00pm for those who are 60+ and still working
13. Castle Island – 1st Wednesday of September (9/6/23). We will postpone our luncheon at Lucky 777’s to perhaps the following week
14. October 11, 2023 – AVON COA will be providing a shredder
15. Norfolk County DA (Morrissey) is providing a Textile Bin for disposal of clothing, shoes, fabric. It is a 5x5 ft. bin provided by a Textile Company. Once the bin is full, they will empty it and provide the COA (or the Town) with a $40.00 check. As of November 2022, it is a violation to dispose of clothing and fabrics in the normal trash or recycling bins or the individual will incur a fine.
16. Cindy Brennan will be enrolled in a 6-wk. course (Savvy Caregiver Program) regarding Dementia. The South Shore Elder Services does provide training regarding dementia and it was suggested by a Board member to perhaps arrange to have a speaker attend one of our Thursday Socials to do a presentation. The Savvy Caregiver program is a training program for caregivers. It is based on the notion that family members who become caregivers assume a role — caregiving — for which they are unprepared and untrained. The role is usually built on their relationship with the person for whom they care, but the role is different from the relationship. The role is a way of describing the work that they will undertake to care for the person, and that role can be understood in terms of the knowledge, skills and attitude that it takes to be able to do the work, to be successful at it, and to go through the experience with as much reward and as little distress as possible.
17. Cindy Brennan and Elaine Hyland will be attending the fall MCOA Conference (October 11-13, 2023) and part of Cindy’s focus will be participating in Dementia Friendly Town and Memory Café workshops. Elaine Hyland is participating in learning more about newly built COA’s and what pros/cons they encountered as well as a workshop pertaining to improving our Newsletter. Lots of opportunities for networking during this Conference.
18. November (NORWOOD) – Movie (Jekyll & Jyde the Musical) and lunch
19. December 14, 2023 – Christmas Party at Rockland Golf Course
20. Farmer’s Market coupons are available and the program continues until the end of October. Individuals are required to complete an application and it is income-based to qualify.
21. Next meeting September 13, 2023 at 3:00pm.
22. Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Hyland, Secretary