

0.Minutes of the Lancaster Council on Aging Board January 19, 2011

Board Attendees: Mary (Judie) MacLean, David James, Claire Griffiths, Eileen McRell and COA Director Arthur Levesque

The meeting was called to order by chairperson David James @ 9:30 AM in the town hall.

The minutes were approved as amended.

Director's report:

The stats for the year so far were distributed. The van trips have decreased because people from Bigelow do not need to be transported for the meals being held at Bigelow Gardens.

Staff person Pat Ciampaglia is on vacation (sick leave) until January 31st because of surgery due to her falling while delivering home delivered meals.

The financial report was presented to the board.

Old Business:

The sprinkler installation is in process in the new COA building. The board of directors have not met as yet. We will open as soon as a building permit is issued. The Grand opening has been postponed until the spring. MOC approved the kitchenette in the new building.

We have been approved for recreational Beano in Lancaster. Arthur will keep the certificate in his office for now.

The Van Policy has not been presented to the selectmen yet. There were no meals on wheels delivered today because of the icy conditions on the roads.

The Formula Grant is all signed off.

The number of phone calls received in the COA office per year totals approximately 5000.

State Representative Jennifer Benson will be attending the meal site in the near future in order to meet with the seniors of Lancaster. Arthur learned that there are 50 tax exemptions for seniors. He will report them in a future newsletter.

There can be no new tax work off participants added to this year's program. Arthur will seek to have one of the participants work at the meal site to help Patrice. An email will be sent by him to the assessor's office requesting a person.

Arthur showed several trip descriptions possible for senior to travel in if interest exists. A suggestion was made to join other nearby COA's in their planned trips.

The COA directors group are meeting next week to discuss the Senior Citizen Publishing group.

The report concerning Lancaster's annual report was discussed. Some names were suggested to Arthur for inclusion in his summary of events and activities. The COA news letter is available on the Town of Lancaster COA's web page on the 5th of each month. Blood Pressure is measured for seniors during the first week of every month during the meal site time at Bigelow Gardens. Openings exist on the COA board. Present members were encouraged to find appropriate new people to join.

Our Town Administrator will request a raise for dispatcher and van drivers from MART.

Our formula grant may take a hit this year because of state monies becoming limited in the future. We have lost 7 people in the work off program.

A board member suggested listing Verizon information in an upcoming newsletter to assist seniors concerning telephone usage during an electric outage in town.

Our next meeting will be held on February 16th in the Town Hall.

Meeting adjourned at 10:32 AM.

Respectfully submitted.

Claire Griffiths, Sec.