

LANCASTER COA MINUTES

APRIL 19, 2017

Attendees: Alexandra Turner (Director), Melissa Pelletier (NM), Nicole Kanis, Michelle Jones, David James (Friends), Michele Macdonald, Jo-Agnes Santangelo, Frank McGrory, Marilyn Largey (NM), Jay Moody (Chair), Judie MacLean, Sheila Casey (NM)

Meeting Called: 9:02AM

Minutes from last month approved with revisions.

Friends Update: Not much changed. We're up \$2,000.00 for this year. The \$5,000.00 set aside for senior fitness has yet to be spent. Our overall balance is \$12,245.41. We have a lot of beer and wine left over from Spring Fling which we can use for beer and wine events. We're waiting to hear about our liability insurance application. Three different places are looking into it for us. One is an online source. Alix adds that Friends needs to have a board meeting to discuss insurance.

Directors Update:

Spring Fling review – We had over \$1,000.00 in ticket sales. Alix commented that Spring Fling was a remarkably diverse event. Having a subcommittee in charge of it meant one or two people didn't have to do all the work. The cost to purchase food came out of Friend's revolving funds. The raffle made \$95.00. For the first time in Lancaster, town officials gave approval to sell alcohol in a public building. Woo Hoo!! River Terrace sponsored the insurance costs. Nicole said that people were asking for more non-alcoholic beverage selections. Next time more seltzer water. The bar worked out well. Timing was pretty good. People were happy with the food. The dance lessons were a hit and the food was fantastic. We made money and everyone was happy. It brought in a lot of people who were not regulars. We sat about 70 people. Members agreed that we tried to keep it affordable. We now know which wines people prefer. The subcommittee members guaranteed the liquor costs. We agreed to save the liquor for future events. Some of the wine would go into the sangria for the Tapas on the Patio. We'll have to go to the town for the one-day liquor license.

Upcoming event, Third Thursday on the Terrace: Live Mike Night will be held June 15th, July 20th and August 17th from 6:30PM to 9:00PM. The subcommittee will work more on this. Volunteers are needed!

Chairman's Statements: Jay shared copies of the Council on Aging questionnaire which we reviewed together. We were unsure of the answer to one of the questions: whether "COA board members can serve on the Friends of the Council on Aging board".

Jay said that he'd like to see defibrillator training to all town employees by the Lancaster Fire Department. Cost was an issue. Couldn't it be for those spectating and not participating? Doesn't the cost come from Red Cross certification? Marilyn is going to talk to the Fire Department today about planning CPR training.

Jay spoke about the importance of his badge and MOW (Meals on Wheels) sign for car identification.

Programming: Trips – We’re using our large MART van to go to Blithewold April 28th. The Norman Rockwell and Berkshire Botanic Gardens trip is scheduled for May 12th and the Tall Ships – Parade of Sails trip for June 17th.

Personnel: Micheline works Tuesdays as hosting coordinator for lunches and Bingo. She’s a CNA. She’s sending out birthday cards (donated by JoAgnes) to residents turning 65. Enclosed in each card is a reminder to sign up for Medicare.

The new van driver, Patrick is going through MART contract processing.

CSL Update: Marilyn will be doing a luncheon tomorrow at Bigelow Gardens in order to introduce herself and talk about what she does. Also, she’ll give out information about the MART bus and other services available as well as invite residents here for breakfast and lunch.

As Marilyn’s six month evaluation time nears, she’s preparing to defend her job. To make her case to the Finance Committee, she’s kept track of just what she has accomplished so far. Besides helping clients, which can be intense and time consuming, she also helps with gardening. Alix admits that she couldn’t do without her! Michelle suggests that Marilyn present to the Finance Committee the number of volunteer hours she works over the paid hours. Twenty seven to thirty percent of the population of Lancaster is age 60 or over.

More Director’s Updates:

Gardening – We have not heard back from the Agricultural Resources Grant or the Harvard Community Grant. The deadline is June.

Five workers from the Worcester County Sheriff’s Office are coming to work on the outside grounds.

Rota Springs has agreed to sell us produce at wholesale or discount which we could sell to seniors at a farm stand setup here maybe at the Pancake Breakfast.

There’s a question as to whether the Lancaster Farmers Market will return again.

Pancake Breakfast attendance has gone down a bit since the Prescott Building construction began.

Building – Alix has received permission to get locked cabinets put in the hall.

Grants – This is the season for healthy nutrition grants.

Multigenerational: Alix reported that Deb was considering possible field trips for children to Roger Williams Park or the Ecotarium in Worcester and an April Fenway trip. Nerf Wars is very popular with the children here!

Budget Process: Alix reported that the town had a \$130,000.00 deficit. The final budget is due in October. The town meeting is in May. We all need to attend!

Meeting Adjourned at 10:50AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Casey