

LANCASTER COA MINUTES

November 15, 2017

Attendees: Alix Turner (Director), Nicole Kanis, Marilyn Largey (CSL), Michelle Jones, Michele Macdonald, Melissa Pelletier (Administrative Assistant), Jo-Agnes Santangelo, Frank MacGrory, Sheila Casey (NM), Cheryl Gariepy (Finance Director), Mike Hanson (Fire Chief), Tony Zahariadis (Building Commissioner), Garrett - (NELCO Project Representative), Mary - (NELCO Project Representative)

This is a meeting highlighting the issues concerning the power outage of October 31, 2017 to the Lancaster Community Center and related buildings. It is a running discussion touching on all aspects of the COA programs and how they affect Lancaster residents.

Meeting called to order at 10:00 AM - Lancaster Town Library staff room.

Attendees Introduced themselves.

Proceedings: Michele, acting as chair, stated that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the current status of the Lancaster Community Center (LCC) and to explain which of our programs and events are cancelled and which are still scheduled.

Alix reported that John did a good job moving LCC infrastructure to the second floor of the Lancaster Town Hall (LTH) in the Board of Health office and that Melissa is managing to keep the van on schedule. The Walking Club is the only thing going on at the center and that it is outside, behind the building. The van is still in the back parking lot. Meals on Wheels is tight because the galley at Bigelow Gardens is small. Our lunch, served at Bigelow Gardens, means that Marilyn has a chance to know more residents there.

As far as SHINE is concerned, the closing of LCC could not have happened at a worse time. This is open enrollment time and counselors need a private and confidential space in which to work with clients. The same goes for the Veteran's Agent. Orlando is working with him to secure an appropriate space. It was suggested to inquire about a space at the Clinton Senior Center. Alix reported that Bingo has moved to Bigelow Gardens.

Our COA meeting is on for November 29, 2017 at 9:00 AM. It will probably be held here in the library staff room. We'd prefer to have Tai Chi (Mondays) in the LTH. Other possible locations are the Bullfinch Church or St. John's Gym. Clinton Parks and Recreation may have space. Bridge is canceled. Saturday Yoga will be at the LTH. We'll ask Dave to come and open it. Thanksgiving Dinner tonight is canceled. Bullfinch Church has offered to let us use space for our Holiday Dinner. Santa's visit is canceled this year. Not being able to serve Tuesday pancakes breakfast has left a big hole in the senior community. Alix will ask Wanda about possibly holding Tuesday pancakes at Bigelow Gardens but offerings and seating will be limited. When there's no pancake breakfast, there's no speaker series to address residents as well.

Pickleball is canceled and Alix has suggested other places for players to go to. Jazz and Ballroom Dancing may be held in the LTH.

Alix reported about the updates she had been given in regard to the outage and what is being done in regard to the LCC. According to Alix, the transformer in the LCC was outdated, being from 1953. National Grid would be installing a bigger one which would power the refurbished Prescott Building and the LCC. She spoke about the conduit location and access. She said that Orlando sent in a bid, explaining our emergency need. We don't have a contractor yet. Garrett said not to bet on any date of completion for now. Mike said that no one was to go back into the LCC building because it is unsafe. It's off limits to all residents. It could be spring before the building has power. Mary expressed concern as to whether the connections in the building could handle the power. She advised having someone check the electrical box. Nicole asked whether the LTH has an emergency plan and shelter. We were told that there is.

Cheryl said that for now the cause of the outage was the storm. Alix was advised by the NELCO representatives not to contact National Grid (NG). Only the person who pulled the permit should expect to be notified by NG. Mike stated that Orlando should be the only point of contact to NG. Alix asked Mike to get people to move things out of the LCC building.

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Casey