

# LANCASTER COA MEETING

July 18, 2017

**Attendees:** Judie MacLean, Jay Moody (Chair), Alix Turner (Director), Michele Macdonald, Jo-Agnes Santangelo, Frank MacGrory, Maribeth Eugene, Beverly Fiske (NM), Michelle Jones, Marie Espinola (NM), David James (Friends), Nicole Kanis, Sheila Casey (NM)

## **Meeting Called to Order at 9:04 AM**

**Friends Update:** We have @ \$4,000.00. We still have \$5,000.00 set aside for senior exercise programs. We have \$7,000.00 left to spend.

**Chairman's Update:** Marilyn's mom passed away. She'll be out next week. She met with the town fire chief regarding CPR training. She'll tell us more about it later.

## Meals on Wheels Update:

The list of people served has grown to nine. We discussed why the the number is low and how we might get more people to take advantage of MOW. One reason for the low numbers is that often those living alone don't bother to eat meals. Another is that MOW vegetables are overcooked. If MOC would allow us to make changes, we'd add soup and salad to the meals. We thought it a good idea for our members to sample a MOW meal. Ray spoke about the importance of MOW as opportunity to check up on seniors.

## **Director's Report:**

Tapas is tomorrow night. From 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM this afternoon we'll do some cooking and prep. Members are encouraged to come and help. Cost of small plates (tapas) was discussed. It was advertized at \$4.00 each. A suggestion was made to round it off to \$5.00.

## Trips:

- 1) On July 28, 2017 Bev is leading a consignment crawl in Westborough and Northborough with lunch at JP's Lounge.
- 2) On Friday August 11, 2017 is the trip to Freeport by train.
- 3) On Friday August 28, 2017, will be the deep sea fishing trip out of Salisbury MA .
- 4) On September 8, 2017 will be the Brimfield MA Antique Flea Market crawl.
- 5) On Saturday August 19, 2017, the Sheriff's Annual Senior Picnic will be held at SAC Park in Shrewsbury. It's free and we'll be running a bus.

Alix reported that she and Marilyn have more people needing help due to failures of health insurance, foreclosures and severe financial distress. We're running a farm stand here Tuesday mornings. Rota Springs is partnered with us. We bought blueberries, corn, kale and more. We spent about \$100.00 and we made a bit of money. It went well. Profits go back into the gardening program which is from a grant that's supposed to be self-sustaining. We were told by the town hall that we'd have to sell through Friends, which is what we'll do from now on.

Jay suggested that COA members go to the Finance Committee meeting and ask what we can expect next year. It was suggested to hold an "Ask the Selectman" session after Pancake Breakfast where seniors could ask questions.

**Building:** We're still looking for help with the heating system. Jay is donating a pump. Alix is awaiting an answer from the town. One of our windows is broken. We need better HVAC. Parking here is still an issue.

**Personnel:** Lancaster Community Center personnel remains stable. We are blessed with a good group.

**Budget:** Marilyn's funding was up in the air. The town has a \$67,000.00 surplus in overall budget. They paid ahead of schedule. Michelle Vasquez is our liaison to the COA. Judie reported about resident Mary Keller's complaint regarding the safety check. The board voted unanimously that anyone using the van needs to abide by the rules and that Alix is a mandated reporter who is legally responsible to report medical needs.

**Minutes Tabled:** A motion was made and approved to correct and review the June 21, 2017 minutes at our next meeting on August 19, 2017.

**New Business:** The Recreation Department asked if we wanted to participate in the first annual Recyclable Boat Race by entering a Senior Center boat. No one wanted to build a boat, so we'll decline their invitation.

Alix spoke about the Free Nutrition classes and Blood Pressure Challenge. Classes will be July 24th, August 14th and September 25, 2017. They'll be presented by Ann Mazzola of Home Instead Senior Care.

**Meeting Adjourned at 10:52 AM.**

Respectfully submitted,

Sheila Casey