

Council on Aging Minutes for Virtual Meeting of November 13, 2024

Approved at the meeting of December 11, 2024

Meeting called to order at 5:32 p.m.

A roll call of those present: Martha Favre (MF), Janis Gray (JSG), Jessica Makepeace (JM), Susan Millinger (SM), Jeanette Stockton (JS).

1. Minutes of the Meeting of September 11, 2024: *A motion was made to table the minutes of the September 11, 2024 meeting since copies of the minutes had not recently been distributed. The motion was seconded and passed unanimously by a roll call vote.*

2. Business: November 13 Financial Report from Treasurer JM

Financial Update:

Funding

EOEA Grant (recently received: one-half the grant for FY25)

Available to spend: \$4,282.50

Expenses needing to be budgeted: (regular annual expenses) see Discussion below

- FootCare Clinic
- Geezette (1 issue)
- Contribution to Fitness Classes
- Mass COA dues
- Contribution to Village Neighbors

Expenses currently charged to COA

Expenses of FootCare Clinic since July 1:

FootCare Clinic, July-Sept: \$1,002.00

Spent: \$1,002.00

Balance of currently unbudgeted funds: \$ 3,280.50

Donation Account \$324.00

Donation Account Comments: The treasurer, JM, informed the COA that there are two other checks whose sources and destination will get clarification.

FY25 Town budget for COA \$200

End of Financial Report

3. General Council Discussion of Budgeting for FY25:

a. Recent expenses not yet charged:

1. For the Birthday Party event: \$100
2. Cost of the new pamphlet introducing Shutesbury's COA: \$ 75?

b. Anticipated expenses:

-- General discussion of expenses of FootCare Clinic and home visits.

FootCare Clinic: Costs Currently unknown:

[The cost of 8 clients at the Clinic and one home visit could be as much as \$570/month, which we cannot afford. Much depends on future donations of clients

--The Geezette (one issue): \$800 est

--Dues for MCOA: \$265

--Gift to Village Neighbors discussed. Last year we gave \$500.

Do we need clarification about likely FootCare Clinic expenses before committing to an amount?)

4. Current Item:

Library request for \$3,000 contribution to fitness classes; after Discussion *it was moved to give \$1,500 for one half the year, seconded and passed by a vote of 4 in favor with JS abstaining.* \$1,500.00

5. Old Business: Update on transportation. The application to enable senior residents to get free Demand Response rides from FRTA (Franklin Regional Transit Authority)—made available by the State-- is now available. It's now important to communicate this information to Shutesbury seniors. It was decided to post it on Town Announce and the COA website, and to provide the Public Health Nurse with a packet. The information will be in the next Village Neighbors newsletter. JSG will put it on the website; it will be posted on Town Announce and the Public Health Nurse will be given the info.

6. New Business:

A recent communication about Free Digital Resources was received. JSG volunteered to contact them to find out just what is involved.

7. Unanticipated Business:

- a. Responsibility for COA tasks.** Our chair, Martha Favre, is resigning as of December 1, so this is her last COA meeting. No one is willing to become chair,

so members divided up tasks: (Jessica will continue as treasurer, Susan as secretary and Janis as webmaster.)

--FootCare Clinic: MF tells us the Susan Gomberg will continue to manage the Clinic through June 2025. JM agrees to take responsibility for the key to Town Hall, so she can open Town Hall for the Clinic when needed.

--Community Lunch: SM will take over set-up for lunch, and will share with Sally Fairfield the cleaning up and inventorying of the COA's possessions in the kitchen.

--Meetings: JS will serve as chair of meetings; SM will schedule meetings on mytowngovernment.org and post agendas, and be backup chair for meetings.

--Communications: Email: JM will answer email; Susan Gomberg will continue to answer the phone.

--Program planning: For the time being, any plans will be developed by the Council as a whole.

b. Farewell: The COA members thanked Martha Favre for taking on the job of chair and doing it very well. Martha ensured, mostly by her personal efforts, that the COA restarted activities which had not been carried out since the pandemic. Members thanked Martha for all she has accomplished, and expressed their regret that she is leaving the Council.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, December 11, at 5:30 p.m.

Adjournment: *A motion to adjourn was made, seconded and unanimously approved in a roll call vote. Adjourned at 6:37.*

Respectfully submitted, Susan Millinger, Secretary