



## **EASTHAM COUNCIL ON AGING**

### **COA Board Meeting 1/26/2023**

COA Board Chair Joan Lockhart called the meeting to order at 9:30 am

**COA Board Members Present:** Paula Bruns, Carol DiBona, Jan Guidess, Beverly Hobbs, Joan Lockhart, Linda Reed, Richard Trimble, Pat Turiello, Pat Unish

**FECO Board Members Present:** Joanne Irish

**COA Staff Present:** Dorothy Burritt, Monica Keefe-Hess

**Community Members Present:** Mindy Baransky

Approval of minutes from the December 15, 2022 meeting to be moved to February 23, 2023 agenda.

#### **Directors Report:**

- Dorothy thanked Paula and the many volunteers for a wonderful Wednesday luncheon. She also reported that the Holiday Reassurance luncheon and Holiday Sing with the Eastham Elementary school were well received and wonderful to be back in person.
- Dorothy discussed the expansion of the Food to Table program offering a grab and go option for seniors 3 times per month.
- She has been in touch with Nauset Neighbors about the possibility of partnering with them to increase volunteer services for Eastham seniors.
- Dorothy shared that she has been receiving a lot of positive feedback from the community as a whole about the programs being offered at the center as well as the content of the newsletter.
- The Seaside Café is up and running two days per week. There is a cribbage group meeting on Mondays and Trivia with Jim on Tuesdays during the café.

#### **Chairperson's Report:**

- Joan shared the UMASS needs assessment. She noted that the data gathered in the report is more insightful than the recommendations made. According to UMASS we received the second highest response rate from residents. There is now concrete data available to support requests for programming, staffing and building needs.
- Joan requested that board members review the report and make comments to bring to a working session in a couple of weeks. These comments and information will then be brought back to UMASS for clarification and to use for better recommendations.
- A working session was scheduled for February 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30 am.

#### **Committee Reports:**

##### **▪ Elder Services update**

- Carol DiBona reported that Caregiver programs were highlighted at recent Elder Services meeting. Homecare needs are increasing. They are providing shelf stable packaged meals.

##### **▪ FECOA Updates:**

- Joanne Irish provided an update on the Thrift Shop building. Repairs to the outside of the building have been completed. She spoke with Rachel Butler who indicated that

repairs to the inside of the building should be completed soon with occupancy certificate expected to be issued on February 1<sup>st</sup>.

▪ **Community Outreach/Luncheon Program:**

- Paula Bruns provided an update on the first of the monthly luncheons that began this past Wednesday. There were many new volunteers that came to help out and were very energetic. The cost of the luncheon came to about \$334. Paula is looking for more sponsors to not only provide funding for the luncheons, but to build relationships in the community.

▪ **Volunteers:**

- Linda Reed reported that volunteer applications are trickling in, she was able to recruit a couple more people at this week's HIIT class. They will schedule a volunteer meeting in March.
- Monica mentioned that volunteers need to see her to fill out a CORI form and provide a copy of their license.

▪ **Transportation:**

- Pat Turiello reported that Dorothy was able to meet with staff to get input on transportation. The biggest hurdle right now will be the number of drivers available to provide shuttle service which may limit the days that we are able to execute the plan. She has started making calls to the 19 providers in the area.

**New Business:**

- Linda Reed suggested that we look into providing a CPR certification class for anyone that would be interested.
- Dorothy would like to start planning for a Volunteer Recognition luncheon this spring.

**Public Comments:**

- Mindy Baranksy mentioned that there are still a number of seniors who are hesitant to attend programs in person who would like to be able to offer programs simultaneously via zoom. Dorothy indicated that we are looking into purchasing smart boards for the center and with the new cell service through Open Cape we should be able to offer more programs via zoom.
- Mindy received positive feedback from Cindy's A Night Out program with line dancing and pizza. She said people are asking for more programs like that. COA signage and lighting is poor.
- Mindy reported that the demand for tech support has become high and broad. More and more people are needing to use Alexa and Siri for help with operating appliances or help reading text.

Paula Bruns motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:42 am. Jan Guidess seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The next board meeting will be in the Earle Mountain Room at Town Hall on Thursday, February 23rd at 9:30 am.

Respectfully,

Monica Keefe-Hess