



EASTHAM COUNCIL ON AGING

Minutes of the COA Board Meeting 05/25/2023

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

COA Board Members Present: Carol DiBona, Paula Bruns, Beverly Hobbs, Joan Lockhart, Richard Trimble, Pat Turiello, Pat Unish

FECO Board Members Present: Suzanne Barnhart, Joanne Irish, Pat Lariviere

COA Staff Present: Dorothy Burritt

Motion to approve minutes from the May 4, 2023, was made by Carol DiBona and seconded by Rich Trimble. All approved.

Directors Report:

- Dorothy reported an increase in units of service and number of individuals served year over year including a 5% increase in new “touches” – meaning the COA is serving more seniors.
- Seeing the increases in all services, the Board requested more details on services.
- A request was made to fund an additional HIIT class on Monday for July and August (additional \$450).
- Additionally, there was a discussion regarding the FECOA continuing to fund exercise classes and promoting the fact it funds most COA classes and programs. Ways to encourage more donations was discussed and it was decided that we should promote FECOA membership more actively in our newsletter and at classes. Joan Lockhart to help produce article/membership form.

Chairperson’s Report:

- Joan updated on COA Board member seats.
- Discussion about Friends attending Board meetings as nonvoting members. Idea put forth to commit one Board seat to a member of the Friends. Based on input from FECOA members, Rich Trimble made a motion to table this idea for now. All were in favor.
- Joan announced U Mass would host a public presentation of survey results. This will likely be set for second week in July, Dorothy will schedule this with Town.
- Joan reminded Board members that the committees should be meeting regularly.

Committee Reports:

▪ Transportation:

- Beverly Hobbs will assist with tracking transportation via use of My Senior Center software. A discussion was had about purchasing scheduling software in the future to be linked to current software.
- Joan suggested looking at the software used by Nauset Neighbors
- Pat suggested all Board members receive training on My Senior Center
- Dorothy provided an update that at this time Nauset Neighbors is not able to partner with COA.

▪ Elder Services update

- Carol DiBona noted that the Elder Services is celebrating 50-year anniversary. Dorothy, Pat Turiello and Paula brought up Elder Services grant opportunity. Ideas were discussed and the consensus was to look at using voice-activated technology as a

way to decrease social isolation. Group to meet to work on initial letter to submit by deadline. Proposal due end of June.

▪ **Volunteers:**

- There are now greeter volunteers present at the center 5 mornings per week.

▪ **FECOIA Updates:**

- Pat Lariviere reminded all of upcoming FECOIA annual meeting on May 31 and requested that Dorothy send out an e-blast reminder as well robo call.
- Pat reported that the Thrift Shop is doing well. Donations are coming into the shop. Month of May sales were up as compared to 2022.
- FECOIA will vote in a new treasurer at its annual meeting, Terry Hendrix, and Sue Barnhart will stay on as secretary. Seeking president and vice president!
- The shop is adding additional hours this summer, Thursday evenings from 4-7 pm. There is an ongoing need for Saturday shop volunteers for both shifts.
- Discussions about designating a thrift shop manager(s), separate from the FECOIA president role, which encompasses broader responsibility.

Carol DiBona motioned to adjourn the meeting at 11:21 am. Beverly Hobbs seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

The next board meeting will be in the Earle Mountain Room at Town Hall on Thursday, June 22 at 9:30 am. The Board will not meet in July and August.

Respectfully submitted,

Paula Bruns, COA Board Member