

**Town of Millville Council on Aging**  
**Minutes of Meeting March 21, 2024**

Meeting was held at the Millville Senior Center

Members in Attendance: Diane Lamoureux, Chairperson,  
Pat Finn, Secretary  
Larry Pearson, Co-chairperson  
Pam Kobetitsch  
Sandra Caswell  
Richard Hurteau  
Tina Cook, Director

Members Absent: Sue Robbins

Guests/Public: John Kobetitsch, Ellen Bowen, Judy Munroe, Lori Remillard, Don Lamoureux, Kathy Whitten

Diane Lamoureux called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

1. **Pledge of Allegiance.** Followed by a moment of silence for Lauri D'Angelo who passed away several weeks ago.
2. **Minutes of COA Meeting January 18, 2024:** Motion made by Larry and seconded by Pam to accept the minutes as written. Unanimous vote by Larry Pearson, Pat Finn, Pam Kobetitsch and Sandra Caswell.

**Minutes from Budget Meeting January 26, 2024:** Motion made by Sandy and seconded by Larry to accept the minutes as written. Unanimous vote by Larry Pearson, Pat Finn, Diane Lamoureux and Sandra Caswell.

**Minutes from COA Meeting February 15, 2024:** Motion made by Richard and seconded by Pam to accept the minutes as written. Unanimous vote by Richard Hurteau, Pat Finn, Diane Lamoureux and Pam Kobetitsch.

Pat Finn will sign the minutes above and forward to the Town Clerk for posting.

3. **Monthly Budget Review:** Copy provided by Tina of February/March to date expenses. \$209.00 was spent on Encore Fire for the semiannual inspection. \$1034.31 was paid to our van drivers out of our Formula Grant since our salary line has been depleted. This amount will be reimbursed by our new Transportation Grant once the paperwork is submitted to the State.

\$1639.83 was paid for another propane heating fill up. We have enough in this budget line for one more fill up this season.

Tina mentioned that she will be doing one more mailing directly to our senior citizens, the cost of which will be paid out of our current grants. She also told the council that our new van was received on 2-27-24. A balance is due for the van of \$16,500 from the BoS (ARPA funds) and \$136 from our van donation account. The new van has plates and insurance and went out for the first time, taking Grandma Sue for a medical appointment, followed up by groceries.

Pat asked if we received a center seat section, and the answer was yes. Kathy Whitten, who is here and driving until 4-7, stated that the ramp needs to be moved to make it more efficient.

#### **4. New Business:**

**a. Upcoming Events:** March 25<sup>th</sup> we will have a craft from 10-12, followed by a soup and sandwich lunch sponsored by Millville Service. March 26<sup>th</sup> is a senior Easter dinner sponsored by Rep. Soter at the BMR cafeteria @ 5:00 p.m.

March 29<sup>th</sup> is our Movie Day and lunch.

Saturday, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, the center will be open for the Planning Board to have Q&A after a walking tour of Millville. Tina approved of this when asked.

On April 5, Friday, Tina is planning a trip to Twin Rivers for a maximum of 12 people.

April 6, Saturday, Celeste Langlois will be teaching a class on Pysanky Eggs from 10-12. Kathy Whitten will be using the hall from 2-4 p.m. on this same day for a birthday party.

April 20<sup>th</sup> has been requested for a hall rental for a talent show from 2-6:00 p.m. A check for \$100 has been received.

Tina also received a request from BMR regarding the COA having a table at their upcoming craft show. This would be May 11<sup>th</sup>.

It was brought up that several of the hall usage requests were new news events to the COA, and Tina did state that she made these decisions on her own because of timing. Pat mentioned that it would be appreciated in the future that Tina informs the COA via e-mail when something like this occurs.

**b. New Senior Van:** Discussed previously; however, Tina did tell the council that she has been requested to attend the Monday night (4/25) BOS meeting to discuss our proposed budget and the selling of our old van. Kathy Whitten will also attend to discuss the merits of keeping two vans. We currently have 2 drivers and Kathy who substitutes when needed. Kathy also stated that she would show Dennis LaRose the features of our new van when he returns from vacation.

**c. Other items not received within 48 hours prior to the meeting:** Pat let the council know that the Money Market CD for our Beaulieu fund has come due. Per Jane, our Treasurer, we received \$5,860.36 this past fiscal year and the principle of \$120K is being reinvested in a new

Bluestone 12-m CD with a 5.12% APR, 5.25% APY. Pat handed out a chart showing the interest received on this account since FY2018 going forward.

## **5. Old/pending Business:**

- a. Fall Prevention Seminar:** Good turnout, Tina stated that we will be hosting more of these in the future, including financial planning/wills, trusts, probate, with Kathy Fattman. Pat suggested we do another seminar on scams specifically aimed at senior citizens.
- b. Local Sponsorships:** Pat received a check for \$50 from Millville Services and has used this donation for the groceries needed for soup and sandwiches on 3-25. She has written a note to that them for their sponsorship and has also printed out thank-you sign to be used during the lunch. Tina mentioned that Garden Wonders sponsors us as well with \$500 donation last year and \$700 this year.
- c. Hobby Lobby Trip:** 11 attendees plus Kathy Whitten, driver. Left Senior Center at 9:30 and returned by 2:30 p.m. Everyone had a great time on the trip, followed by lunch at McDonalds before returning to Millville.
- d. MEMA Generator:** Tina tried to discuss this with Peter Caruso and Chief Koop. No final decision on who should be responsible for periodic testing, but we all agreed that it should not be the COA's responsibility to test this Emergency Management piece of equipment.

## **6. Member Forum:**

Pat handed out the back page of a flyer sent to all parents by Blackstone Valley Tech that highlighted our recent field trip to learn how to make dog toys. She suggested that in the near future we could have another sponsored lunch (pizza perhaps) after making our own dog toys to donate to Kevin Sullivan and the local animal shelter.

Larry asked if there was any new news on the potential merger of the Library with the Senior Center. Nothing new.

Tina has drafted a letter to the Board of Selectmen regarding in favor of keeping the old van and asked the COA to sign copies. She also stated that she would never have opened a grant for the new van if she had known then that they would want to take away the old one. She stated that insurance on the old van is \$800 per year and that this should be managed by the Town in support of our senior citizens.

Richard let the COA know that he would attend the Monday night BoS meeting and is asking that the Town support installation of several EV Charging Stations at the Senior Center and Library, being two town buildings. These would be credit card driven with some small stipend back to the Town. Discussion followed.

## **7. Public Forum:**

John Kobetitsch asked if we had looking into solar panels for the Senior Center to help with our electricity bill. Pat suggested that this would be a good project for our Green Energy Committee.

Richard Hurteau discussed changing out our ceiling lights from fluorescent to LED and Tina responded that it was not just a matter of the light bulbs but that the entire lighting system

would need to be replaced. Mass Save came out and gave a quote of approximately \$4000 as our portion of this changeover.

Several other questions were raised about an Alzheimer's Safe Town, something that was discussed prior to Covid, and also a support group offered by Tri-Valley.

#### **8. Next meeting Date:**

The next regularly scheduled COA Meeting will be on Thursday, April 18, 2024 at 1:00 p.m.

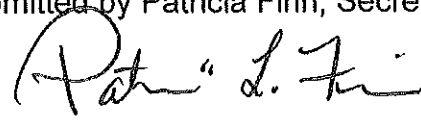
#### **9. Adjournment:**

Sandy made a motion and Larry seconded it that the meeting be adjourned. **Unanimous vote by all COA members in attendance, and meeting adjourned at 2:04 p.m.**

Minutes respectfully submitted by Patricia Finn, Secretary, COA.

Approved by:

PF, DL, PK, SC, LP, RH



Minutes Accepted on: April 18, 2024

#### **Copies provided at meeting:**

1. Agenda for March 21, 2024 meeting.
2. February/March expenses
3. Beaulieu Revenue Account - Historical Data
4. BVT Article re Senior Visit and Dog Toys
5. Thank you sign to Millville Service

REC APR 22 2024

PM 12:50

TOWN CLERK