

BELCHERTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING

Minutes for meeting on November 29, 2018

<u>Members</u>	<u>Guests</u>	<u>Absent</u>
Colleen Duro-Shea	Jessica Langlois	Ed Boscher, Liaison
Robert Farrington	Dave Small	
Maura Guzik		
Jim Dowling		
Donna Bozoglos		
Diane Plant		
Tim Niejadlik		

Bob Farrington called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Minute

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the October 25, 2018 by Tim, and seconded by Diane. Motion passed Yes – 7, No - 0.

Directors Report

Jessica L. reported the following to the Council:

Staff: Doug has completed most of the van driving training and will complete the Disability Awareness training once it is offered again. A Meals on Wheels driver has been hired to replace Alice who retired in October. There have been four applications submitted for the Outreach Assistant position. Interviews to start after 12/7/2018 deadline.

Programs: Participation numbers for programs involved HDMs 1,856 and congregate 601, Companion Errand 12 clients and 29 rides, Outreach 105 clients and 63 Shine clients, Transportation 40 clients with 418 rides.

Other:

Thanksgiving Dinner had a total of 85 guests out of 104 signed up. The inclement weather was the reason why people did not attend. The Center was able to send out a robocall to inform clients the event would still be held despite the weather.

Amherst Survival Center will be holding a Mobile Food Pantry at the Center. Clients are able to sign up for free food and canned goods.

Berkshire Blankets a business located in Ware, MA volunteered to provide 10 free fleece throw blankets and a 50% discount on others for the 80 Meals on Wheels clients.

Jessica reviewed the list of letters that went out to area banks and businesses. Approximately \$12,000 plus dollars have already been donated.

BSCCA Update:

Comments from the Liaison - Liaison was not in attendance. Bob to reach out to Mr. Boscher regarding the van project to understand the steps to take regarding requesting capital funds for van purchase.

Committee Reports

BSCCA: Jessica reported the bizarre was a big success and that the computer system helped running the raffles better than in the past. Dave shared that Lois Butler had a group of 4H volunteers help with the distribution of the baskets and break down the tables at the end of the event. Dave also discussed that the craft items not sold at the bizarre were being sold in the corridor where the library is located. These additional funds will go toward the van purchase. The thrift store is also earmarking funds toward the van purchase and there is a sign in the store to donate for the van. Jessica mentioned they will be putting a sign at the entrance of Center to also request donations.

Transportation - Maura asked Tim where we were approaching the finance committee. Since we have not heard from the Liaison he had nothing to report. As previously mentioned, Bob will reach out to Mr. Boshier to discuss approaching the Finance Committee. Dave shared discussions with a company called Go Graphics about the cost of advertising on van for donors which is approximately \$3,000. In addition, MHQ will be coming back the following week as Dave is concerned about the wheel wells. Finally, Dave spoke with Steve from the Towns DPW to ask what the DPW does when purchasing vehicles. Apparently the Town likes leasing vehicles. ComTrans can offer a reduced rate or a lease to own option.

New Business:

None

Motion to adjourned 6:10PM was made by Tim and seconded by Donna. Motion passed Yes 7 No 0.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maura Guzik
Secretary of Belchertown COA