

## BELCHERTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING

### Minutes for meeting on December 27, 2018

#### Members

Robert Farrington  
Maura Guzik  
Jim Dowling  
Diane Plant  
Tim Niejadlik

#### Guests

Jessica Langlois

#### Absent

Ed Boscher, Liaison  
Colleen Duro-Shea  
Donna Bozoglos

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

#### Minute

A motion was made to accept the minutes of the November 29, 2018 by Maura, and seconded by Diane. Motion passed Yes – 5, No - 0.

#### Directors Report

Jessica L. reported the following to the Council:

Staff: Interviews for the Outreach Assistant have concluded. A recommendation will go to the Board of Selectman on 1/14/2019.

Programs: Participation numbers for programs involved HDMs 1,567 and congregate 594, Companion Errand 11 clients and 23 rides, Outreach 81 clients and 99 Shine clients, Transportation 49 clients with 399 rides. Notably the HDMs were over by 11 as required by the grant, however congregate needed 604. YTD it is down by 14 required meals.

The holiday lunch was on 12/12 and had a good turnout of 99 people with entertainment by Jimmy Mazz.

Wellness Workshop lead by Tai Chi instructor brought in 15 clients for lunch. Katie is working on programs before and after lunch to bring people in to eat.

Administration: First quarterly report for October-December was sent out to WMEC which is a requirement for the grant. It highlighted the nutrition brochure, new meal options, letters to physicians and the “Lunch and Learn” program.

#### Other:

Additional van donation letters have been sent out. A total of \$30,508 has been raised YTD. Jessica already spoke to Gary Brougham about the fundraising efforts. He recommended a lease to own transaction. It is encouraging that the town will make up the difference for the purchase on any shortfall from the fundraising efforts.

Tim asked about having a vision impaired phone service speaker come to the Center. Jessica will look into getting the speaker that does the program for the Vets Program. Tim also inquired about how advertising is done for the SHINE services. Jessica indicated they advertise in the newsletter and get return clients. It was recommended there be an open forum to discuss the SHINE program. Jim recommended continuing the program to provide an explanation of use of phones like Jitterbug. Jessica indicate the program will continue and expand to other software

applications like ipads. Diane asked about the chance to continue Bingo and Jessica mentioned it will start again in the spring due to the darkness in the evening and the winter weather. Diane mentioned the residents at Christopher Heights really enjoy the Bingo at the Center.

BSCCA Update:

Update is part of the Directors report regarding Van purchase. A meeting will be held with Transportation Committee in January. Jessica to check with Dave Small regarding his availability.

Comments from the Liaison - Liaison was not in attendance, however Bob spoke to Mr. Boscher who indicated that he is supportive of the van purchase. In addition, Bob shared he would like to have a higher level of government in discussions about the meals program. Jessica hopes that based on the increased numbers the next grant will be for a two year period. Mr. Boscher has not been able to attend meetings due to family obligations.

New Business:

There will be no meeting in January. The next meeting will be February 28, 2019.

Motion to adjourned 6:10PM was made by Maura and seconded by Diane. Motion passed Yes 5  
No 0.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Maura Guzik  
Secretary of Belchertown COA