

BERKLEY COUNCIL ON AGING
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 6, 2023

Board Present: Margaret Moroff, Arlene Medeiros, Kathee Strozyk, Carol Buote, Cathy Charette

- I. **Call to Order** - Margaret Moroff called the meeting to order at 10:31 in the hearing room. Margaret Moroff stated the meeting is being broadcast live and hopefully videotaped.
- II. **Acceptance of Prior Minutes** – Carol Buote motioned to accept the minutes from October 5, 2023. Cathy Charette seconded the motion. The board voted to accept the minutes
- III. **FY 2024 Budget** - Krista Celia presented the financial report as of October 31, 2023
 1. Town Budget Balance: \$22,707.78
 2. Formula Grant: \$13,058.86
 3. Program Donations: \$8,445.92
 4. General Donations: \$4275.36
- IV. **Events –**
 1. Ceramics - Margaret Moroff announced the upcoming ceramics class scheduled for December 6th – Cookies for Santa Plate. Margaret Moroff asked Krista Celia how many people have signed up for the Christmas Tree Workshop on November 14th. Krista Celia said that 6 people signed up but one person can no longer make the workshop and Krista said she was looking into a refund for that one participant.
 2. Painting with Amy - Margaret Moroff announced that the upcoming workshop with Amy would be a holiday craft - The project would be a wooden block Santa, reindeer, or snowman.
 3. Blood Pressure Clinic – Margaret Moroff stated that the blood pressure clinic will be 11-22-23. Margaret Moroff announced the Town hall is closed on the 22nd but the COA will still be open for food pick up and for the blood pressure clinic.
 4. Manicures – Margaret Moroff talked about the return of Manicures. She asked Krista Celia if Kerrie Ann would be handling the payment and Krista replied that yes Kerrie Ann would handle the payment and that the only thing the COA was doing was providing a room and scheduling appointments.
 5. Refuse to be a Victim – Margaret Moroff said the Refuse to be a Victim workshop is scheduled. It will be a 2-part series. Part one will be Monday, November 27th from 3:00 – 4:30 and part two will be the following Monday, December 4th from 3:00 – 4:30. Margaret Moroff asked if we could get a better description of the class. Krista Celia said that the description that was in the newsletter is the description provided with the class. Krista said she would ask for a list of topics from Kerrie Ann.
 6. Holiday Party - Margaret Moroff talked about the upcoming Christmas Party on December 9th. Margaret Moroff asked why the limit has been set at 100. Elisabeth Monkowski suggested it was the room capacity. Margaret Moroff said that she did not think so because it is a cafeteria. Krista Celia said that from a planning perspective it is important to have a number of guests and a cutoff point to sign up. Margaret Moroff said that the friends voted to pay for Norman Orrall, the Selectmen, the Town Administrator and the Assistant Town Administrator. Arlene Medeiros motioned to increase the capacity of the Christmas Party to 125. The motion was seconded. The board voted to cap the Christmas Party at 125 guests and to end the sign-up period at the date listed on the sign-up poster.
 7. Bristol Elders Lunch and Learn – Margaret Moroff talked about the Lunch and Learn workshop. She asked Krista Celia how many people came and Krista answered 55 people. Margaret said

that the food offered could have been healthier especially since it was a nutrition workshop. Krista Celia said that Bristol Elders would like to do more of these in the center. Margaret Moroff suggested scheduling it for an earlier time. Kathee Strozyk said that there was a lot of clean up.

8. Holiday Card Workshop – Margaret Moroff discussed the Holiday Card Workshop scheduled for November 16th at 9:00 a.m. with Lestyn Gilmore. Krista Celia said that Lestyn would be providing everything but participants will need to bring a glue stick and scissors.
9. Thomas Quinn – The group discussed the upcoming Tom Quinn Scam workshop. Krista Celia said he would be talking about Scams again and someone mentioned that there are new scams every day. It is scheduled for January 25th at 11:00 a.m. The board decided on a sandwich and salad lunch and would like the Friends of the COA to pay for the lunch.
10. Hemp Workshop – Krista Celia talked about the Hemp Workshop scheduled for January 3rd at 2:00. Krista asked if the presenters could bring in samples and the board said yes.
11. New Events –
 - a. Margaret Moroff suggested showing movies or having board games in the activity center after friend's lunches. Carol Buote said that some libraries have monthly or weekly movie showings. She said the library has movies to choose from. Kathee Strozyk asked how are the movies shown and Margaret Moroff said on the TV in the center. Kathee said that she has a projector and screen and Liz Monkowski said that we tried a projector in the past but it was too light in the center. Margaret Moroff said maybe we should look into more comfortable chairs. Liz Monkowski said that the uncomfortable chairs were the reason the center stopped showing movies. Carol Buote said to let the library know if we would like a movie.
 - b. Cultural Council – Krista Celia said the Cultural Council had received a grant request to benefit the COA and it was not one of the ones previously discussed. The topic of the program is "songs and stories from the American Folk Revival". Margaret Moroff read the description to the board and said that she thinks it sounds phenomenal. Kathee Strozyk asked if the Cultural Council has agreed to fund this grant. Arlene Medeiros said no that the grant submission period has just closed. She went on to say that the Cultural Council will vote in December and they will decide which programs are approved and for how much money. Arlene said that right now there are 3 grant requests received and the Cultural Council needs a priority list. The ones before the council are: Fran Heart, Music of the 70s, Hip Hop, and American Folk. Kathee Strozyk said that the music programs may reach the people we have a hard time reaching, men. The board prioritized the grant applicants as follows: 1. American Folk, 2. Music of the 70s, 3. Hip Hop. Arlene Medeiros asked if the COA is willing to pay for part of the program if the Cultural Council does not fund the whole cost and the board said yes.
 - c. Hip Hop Boot Camp – Krista Celia brought up the boot camp offered in Middleboro from the Hip Hop instructor. Margaret Moroff suggested putting it in the newsletter to see if anyone was interested.

- V. Friends Report – Elisabeth Monkowski talked about medication disposal bags. Margaret Moroff said she would check with the Fire Department to see if they had any grants that would cover the cost of the bags. Elisabeth said she would tell the Friends that the COA is interested. Elisabeth said the Friends have new events planned and are trying for an event every other month.

- VI. Public Input- There was no public input.

VII. **Notice of the Next Meeting** – December 7th in the activity room at 9:30

VIII. Adjourn – Carol Buote motioned to adjourn and Arlene Medeiros seconded the motion and the board voted in favor.