

Ludlow Council on Aging
Board Meeting
Senior Center
228 State Street
Wednesday, April 19, 2023

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2023 JUN 15 P 1:43

TOWN OF LUDLOW

Present: J. Zepke, D. Peacey, K. Martin, R. Forti, F. Krzanik, F. Barroso, J. DaCruz, K. Ribeiro, H. Grabowski, D. Johnson, B. Michol, B. Radowski, K. Green, Chairperson of the Friends

I. Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 4:30 p.m. by Chairperson D. Peacey. New members Bob Mishol and Bob Radowski were introduced and welcomed.

II. Secretary's Report

- a. Minutes from the March 15, 2023 meeting were reviewed and approved. M/S: D. Johnson/R. Forti. All in favor.

III. Treasurers Report

a. Zepke reported that the FY 23 budget is on target. She has not heard anything back on the Level II budget submitted for FY24. She reported that the contract with Western Mass Elder Care was received after she submitted the FY 24 budget and therefore does not include the payment increase. She will make the adjustment prior to the May Town Meeting.

IV. Director's Report

- a. Grants Update/Status: The Community Transit Grant application will not be available until October; it was hoped monies from this grant could be added to the \$50K received from the State Legislature to purchase a new van during FY23. If not used by June 30, 2023, these funds must be returned. J. Zepke has discussed options with Town Administrator, M. Strange (i.e. whether a van could be purchased before June 30th and continue to work on securing additional funds before taking delivery). The current Federal Title III grant funding (WMEC) expires September 30, 2023. J. Zepke and her staff are discussing the feasibility of applying again as there are very strict guidelines for what this money may be used for and they cannot be changed after the grant is obtained. There was no news about the Formula Grant.
- b. Center Numbers: J. Zepke compiled a chart illustrating the number of participants attending the Ludlow Senior Center and numbers of activities offered. She included a comparison between January and February 2022 and compared to the same months in 2023. Members discussed the significant increased noted over the past year. This information will be provided to the Selectboard monthly to demonstrate the Center traffic, the importance of the Center to the community, and to justify staff increases that may be needed in the future. J. DaCruz commented that more people probably enter the

Senior Center in one day than at other town buildings, and he commended the staff for their efforts.

- c. Senior Center Building Committee: The generator has not been delivered and therefore the Committee has not met.

V. Chairman's Report:

- a. Election of Officers: The following slate of Board officers were voted on and approved:

Chairperson: D. Peacey

Vice Chair: F. Barroso

Treasurer: J. DaCruz

Secretary: K. Martin

There was no discussion. M/S: D. Johnson/K. Ribeiro. All in favor.

- b. COA Western Massachusetts Board Training: Members were reminded to sign up for the training which will be held at the Center on May 31 from 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. This is open to all COA members if interested.
- c. Status of Member Completion of State Ethics Training: Members were reminded to complete this online training. D. Peacey has emailed a link to the training.
- d. Other: J. Zepke stated she was putting an article in the newsletter recognizing and thanking J. Grimaldi for her commitment to the Center and work on the COA Board over the past years. D. Peacey sent her a thank you card on behalf of the Board members thanking her for her hard work and friendship to all other members.

VI. Visitation:

- a. Kathy Green, President of the Friends of the Ludlow Senior Center, said there will be a Senior Center Contingent at the Memorial Day Parade if any members of the COA were interested in participating. There will be a paper shredding event from 9-11 a.m. on May 6 at the Center. The limit is 5 boxes per car.

VII. Old/New Business:

- a. Policy Manual: J. Zepke noted several additional topics that should be addressed in the manual such as food in the center (outside of the dining room) and the presence of grandchildren in the center.

VIII. Adjournment: 5:37 p.m. M/S: R. Forti/F. Barroso. All in favor.

The next Board Meeting will be at 4:30 p.m. on Wed. May 17, 2023.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Martin, Secretary COA

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