

**Carlisle Council on Aging and Human Services Board Meeting
in the Hollis Room at the Gleason Library, 22 Bedford Road
April 25, 2023 Minutes**

Board Members Present: Verna Gilbert, Ann James, Toni McBride, Ann Quenin, Mary Cheever, Elisabeth Bojarski, Amy Livens, John Ballantine

Associate Members Present: Jerry Lerman, Maxine Crowther

COAHS Staff Present: Carol Grueneich

Select Board Liaison: David Model

Friends Representative: Jace Tilton

Guests: Charlie Cox, Dan Barlow, Katharine deBaun

The meeting was called to order at 10:35 a.m. by Chair Ann James.

Secretary Minutes: A **motion** was made by Ann Quenin to accept the March 23, 2023 minutes submitted by Verna Gilbert. It was seconded and carried by voice vote.

Director Report:

- A **motion** was made by Verna Gilbert to accept the April 25, 2023 Director's Report; it was seconded and carried by voice vote.
- The Charles River Museum of Industry and Innovation was attended by 11 people. Carlisle resident Katharine Sorrows led our tour group.
- 36 signed up for Cutting Cable/Cell Costs, presented by Bob Supnik. A recording of this event will be posted on the COAHS website.
- Only 4 attended the Home Sharing: Benefits and Pitfalls talk, but several wanted to hear it, so a recording will be posted on our website.
- Illusionist Lyn Dillies' magic show was attended and enjoyed by 61.
- A total of 237 rides were provided in March. One driver was very helpful to a senior in the Caregiver group. MOW volunteers provided 217 meals to 18 in March. Myriam is investigating getting meals delivered to Carlisle by Minuteman Senior Services, but there might be an issue keeping them warm. Ann Quenin suggested using FRS ovens.

Social Worker Report

- Carol spoke to Police Officer Bishop about the RUOK program, which only has 2 seniors using it now. Carol will call some seniors who might benefit from the program.
- Twenty applications for the Social Services Manager position have been received thus far. Carol will make a first pass, then forward resumes to Verna, Ann Q, and Ann J.

Financial Report

- A **motion** was made by Verna Gilbert to accept the April 25, 2023 Financial Report; it was seconded and carried by voice vote.
- Elisabeth told us that expenses are in line with the budget. The chart date should be 4/9/23 and YTD 77%. LRTA and Community Chest grants are nearly expended. LRTA wages being over 100% is fine since the whole of transportation expenses is what matters. Friends of COA funds will be used more after Community Chest funding is nearly expended.

Minuteman Senior Services (MMSS): MMSS has moved to their new location in Burlington Woods. Jerry mentioned an Options Counseling Program, which helps seniors in need get supportive services. The state Executive Office of Elder Affairs owes MMSS more than \$500,000. MMSS is working on a new logo and tagline, as well as assessing what they are doing and can possibly do better. MMSS is looking for more volunteers.

Friends of Carlisle Council on Aging: Jace reminded us that the Friends' Annual Meeting is May 21 and postcards with that information will go to all town residents on May 3.

Old/New Business:

- Verna presented the proposed slate for next year. No additions were made. The slate will be voted on in May and a new Nominating Committee will be selected in June, with one member from the current committee staying as chair, one selected by the COAHS chair, and one by the board..
- There was a discussion of where we are with respect to a community center or at least extra space for seniors. Town Planner Julie Mercier is tasked with refining what buildings are needed in the future; Town Administrator Ryan McLane is retooling the Long Term Capital Plan. Public safety projects and parking, both at Town Hall and the Police Station, need to be wrapped up; then we need to figure out how to use the current space better for the short term. One longer term possibility is adding a little space to Town Hall, perhaps where the patio is and/or an addition to the back of Town Hall, for senior usage. It was pointed out that 91% of Massachusetts towns have some sort of Community or Senior Center.

Next Meeting: The next meeting will be Tuesday, May 30 (not May 23) at 10:30 a.m. in the Hollis Room at Gleason Library. The meeting was adjourned at 11:20 p.m.

Documents Provided:

- Meeting agenda
- Minutes of March 23, 2023 meeting
- April 25, 2023 Director's report
- Proposed slate for FY24

Submitted by Verna Gilbert, Secretary and approved on May 30, 2023