



COA Meeting Minutes June. 2018

- In attendance P. Benoit, C. Brundige, J. Cappe, J. Ciejka, C. Simmons, C. Wloch, J. Zienowicz
- Craig Simmons called the meeting to order at 9:00 am.
- Motion to accept May 2018 Minutes, Benoit, all in favor.

New Business:

- Brundige stated that starting June 27th there will be a movie and popcorn event at 12:30 on the last Wednesday of each month. The first event will show "Singing in the Rain".
- Zienowicz brought up discussion on the last fiscal year's performance of the Senior Center Food Program and the need to change the current business model both in purchasing and in revenue streams. For instance, changing vendors for food and milk purchases to go with the same vendors that the Ware Public Schools use as they present the lowest price options. He also talked about the business relationship with the WestMass ElderCare Nutrition Program and the use of their commodity list and restrictions vs. revenue control and purchasing independence. After much discussion and review of the options a motion was made to discontinue the WestMass ElderCare Nutrition Program and create a new lunch policy to reflect the changes, Ciejka, all in favor.
- Lunch policy change: Due to the increase in food items and the donations remaining the same or slightly lower on the average, a change to the lunch policy is necessary. The daily lunch service will now be a required fee of \$2.75 to be paid at the front desk. The meal will include one milk and/or one coffee, there will be an additional \$.50 fee for each additional milk or coffee. An application for lunch service financial relief will be available at the front desk. Financial relief will be on a sliding fee scale based on need as determined by the Social Services Coordinator. The new policy will take effect on August 1, 2018. Motion to accept new lunch policy, Cappe, all in favor.
- Minutes Changes: COA Minutes will now be placed on the town website for public viewing and will therefore be more detailed/descriptive than in the past
- Election of new officers: Carol Brundige nominated Janet Ciejka for Chairperson, Cappe second, all in favor; Julie Cappe nominated Cindy Wloch for Vice Chairperson, Wloch declined the nomination; Cindy Wloch nominated Julianne Cappe for Vice Chairperson, Ciejka second, all in favor; Julianne Cappe nominated Carol Brundige for Secretary, Janet Ciejka second, all in favor.
- John Zienowicz presented Craig Simmons and Paul Benoit Certificates of Appreciation for their years of service on the COA as this was their last COA meeting.
- Zienowicz wanted to remind everyone that we are a regional provider for SNAP benefits and seniors can be eligible for benefits. Make an appointment with Maire Brigid to get your application completed.
- Recent donations from the PVTA (2 vans), the Bay State Health System (\$30k), the Mary Lane Doctor's Association (\$30k) and the Mass Office of Elder Affairs through a Service Incentive Grant (\$45k=new van) have shown some serious external support this year for expanding transportation services in and around Ware.
- Motion to adjourn 10:30am – Benoit, second Simmons, all in favor

Motion to adjourn 10:00AM, Benoit and Simmons, all in favor

Next meeting: July 17th, 2018 9AM

Carol Brundige: Recorder