



## Arlington Council on Aging

### Minutes

*Date: Thursday March 17, 2022 Time: 6:00 pm*

*Present: Michael Quinn, Kristine Shah, Laura Liscio, Sheila Connerney, Nancy Cox, Mary Hung, Anne Brown, Nancy Feeney, Mahendra Desai, Pat Baillieul*

*Associate members: Karen Nichols, Rick Fentin, Mara Klein-Collins, Marjorie Vanderhill*

*Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) Liaison: Ray Jones*

***Location: This meeting will be conducted virtually via Zoom, following the rules set forth by the Governor's Executive Order on Remote Participation. These meetings are open to the public and all are welcome. Please call 781-316-3401 or e-mail [KShah@town.arlington.ma.us](mailto:KShah@town.arlington.ma.us) for the link to join the virtual meeting which can be accessed by computer with internet access or by telephone for audio access only.***

*Kristine Shah, Executive Director*

*Michael Quinn, Chair*

*Sheila Connerney, Secretary*

*The Council's primary responsibilities are to design, promote, and implement programs and services to address the needs of the community's elder population, and to coordinate existing services in the community.*

1. Call to order at 6:02pm – welcome Nancy Feeney and Mahendra Desai.
2. Citizen's Open Forum – Ray Jones, Arlington Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC). He will be available to answer questions about transportation and road questions related to elders in the community.
3. Minutes of the February 2022 meeting for approval – Anne Brown moved to approve the minutes, Nancy Cox seconded the motion. Minutes approved.
4. Executive Director's Report
5. Age/Dementia Friendly
  - a. Chat Bench
  - b. Finalize Action Plan, present to Select Board—Send feedback to Kristine within a month if you have any.
6. Report of the Chair
  - a. Future Board Meetings- location. The next meeting will be in person, but we will keep the hybrid option on the table as well.
7. Police Civilian Advisory Committee, Warrant Article 15 Update- Anne Brown. Materials were sent to board members. Board could submit a letter in support of Warrant Article 15 before it goes before Town Meeting.

8. Minuteman Senior Services Report – Several towns are looking for representation on the Minuteman Board. They are working on decreasing social isolation. Covid booster programs in various towns. 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Meals on Wheels; they are looking for drivers.

9. ASA Liaison Report – None.

10. Old Business – None.

11. New Business – Rick’s congregation has been exploring options for older members and he learned about Cambridge Neighbors; he’s wondering if there’s any collaboration between Cambridge Neighbors and COA. Marge will bring Minuteman materials to the next meeting.

12. Other Community Announcements

13. Adjourn – Anne Brown moved to adjourn. Nancy Cox seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:55pm.

**Next meeting: April 21, 2022**

### **Executive Director’s Report**

**Kristine Shah**

#### I. Center Renovation

- a. COA and DPCD Board Members were invited to tour the nearly completed Community Center on March 15.
- b. “Welcome Back Luncheon” scheduled for April 28, a joint effort with ASA. Full in-person program offerings are being offered in the new spaces starting next week on a rolling basis through April.
- c. Ribbon cutting event to be scheduled once exterior entrances are complete and donor acknowledgement wall/plaques are installed.
- d. New donations received for Game Room sponsorship and Yoga Room Supplies.
- e. In person programs in new spaces scheduled beginning in March/April include: Art Therapy, Decluttering Support, Chair Yoga, LGBTQIA+, Coffee Hour, Current Events, Tai Chi, Sing, Monthly Movie, Intergenerational Tea Talk, Caregivers Support, SHINE Counseling, Low Vision Support, Blood Pressure Clinic, Parkinsons Support, Exercise, Muscle Strengthening, Yarn & Yarn, Intergenerational Book Club, Mahjongg, and Digital Thing. Most of these programs will be offered in a hybrid format.
- f. In May the following programs will be added to in person offerings in the center: ASA Book Club, Shakespeare, Congregate Dining, Bridge, Cribbage, Pool Room Activities, and bingo.

#### II. COA Services and Program Update

- a. Programs outside of the Community Center include our Podiatry Clinic, Market Basket Trips, Blood Pressure clinics in senior housing, Walking Club at the Res, and Clay Dreams trips.
- b. AARP volunteers continue to conduct in person and remote tax appointments on Fridays, through April 15.

- c. Elderly & Disabled Tax Relief Applications have been received and the committee is meeting on March 31 to make decisions. Committee members include Jim Munsey, Rick Fentin, Nancy Feeney, Treasurer and Assessor.
- d. New COA Van order being processed; arriving this summer.

III. Fire at Chestnut Manor

- a. As of March 11, all displaced residents have moved in to their new apartments, within AHA buildings. The COA continues to manage ordering replacement and necessary items for these residents from the Chestnut Manor fund.

IV. The following grant applications have been submitted:

- a. \$15,000 Transportation Grant from Lahey- APPROVED
- b. \$10,000 Hot Spot grant from Mount Auburn- PENDING
- c. \$20,000 Adult Day Health Scholarships Grant from CDBG- PENDING
- d. \$31,540 Transportation Program Grant from CDBG- PENDING
- e. \$52,922 Volunteer Coordinator Grant from CDBG- PENDING