



Arlington Council on Aging

Minutes

Date: Thursday February 16, 2023

Time: 6:00 pm

Present: Anne Brown, Sheila Connerney, Nancy Cox, Nancy Feeney, Sherry Graham, Michael Quinn

Associate members: Rick Fentin, Mara Klein Collins, Paul Raia, Bob Tosi Jr., Marjorie Vanderhill

Community members: Mary Galarnen, Rebecca Gruber, Elaine McNulty-Knight, Pat O'Connell, Lee

Orlandi, Jan Papasodoro, Marie Rapoza COA staff member: Eva Gomez

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 6:01pm

2. Citizen's Open Forum

3. Minutes of the January 2023 meeting for approval Nancy Cox moved to approve the January 2023 minutes. Anne Brown seconded the motion. The minutes were approved by the board.

4. Executive Director's Report

Executive Director's Report: Kristine Shah

COA Programs & Services Update

a. Lunar New Year Celebration on 2/2 and Valentine Karaoke on 2/9 were successful and attendees provided very positive feedback.

b. Our new evening Support Group for Caregivers of people with Dementia grown significantly since it started just a month ago. We have already received calls from other towns asking if they can refer residents to the group.

c. Due to the uptick of scams through the phone, online, and even door to door in town, we are holding a special Scam Information Session with APD on March 9.

d. Elderly and Disabled Tax Relief Applications were due January 31 and we received 23 applications (up from 14 last year). The decision committee will be meeting March 2. Due to the increased number of

applications the committee will also consider awarding some tax relief from the Emergency Fund that was created at the end of 2022 through fundraising.

e. AARP Tax Preparation began February 9 and will continue through April 13. Thank you again to Pat Baillieul for being the lead volunteer again this year.

f. The new Men's Group met for the first time on 2/15 and has a goal of offering new social connections and fun.

g. Outreach for Minuteman Senior Services Volunteers

Other a. COA Staff Highlight; Eva Gomez, Receptionist

Arlington Seniors Association Dissolution has been filed with the Attorney General's office and expects to be completed before the end of the fiscal year.

c. Community Equity Audit Received

5. Report of the Chair

6. Minuteman Senior Services Report Minuteman offices will be moving locations by May 1st.

7. Old Business

8. New Business

a. APCAC Appointee Process; attachment included. COA will advertise in the bulletin and around the center to try to elicit interest in serving on the APCAC.

9. Other Community Announcements

10. Adjourn Anne Brown moved to adjourn. Nancy Cox seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 6:52pm.