



TOWN OF BLANDFORD

Council on Aging
1 Russell Stage Road
Blandford, MA 01008

**MEETING MINUTES
COUNCIL ON AGING
April 04, 2022**

1. Open Session at 1:01 pm

Meeting is recorded

In Attendance: Margit Mikuski, Director; Heidi Taberman, Member; Bob Twyman, Member; Pat Lombardo, Member; Barbara Langmore, Member; Joann Martin, Member

1. EXAMINATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

a. Examination of the Meeting Minutes of March 07, 2022

MOTION: Barbara Langmore made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of March 07, 2022, as written.

**B. Twyman Seconded
Motion Passes**

2. BUDGET REPORT (10 min):

a. Director's Budget Report

Director Mikuski distributed the current budget report. Mikuski spoke of the donation that were given to the Council on Aging in memory of Julie Mueller who passed away recently. Mikuski would be interested in using these funds as a down payment for a new vehicle for transporting seniors.

3. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Blandford's Golden Cane

Originally, the hope was that it could be re-coated with gold leafing, however, we have not been able to find anybody that can do that. It was suggested we look into stripping and repainting. Mikuski gave the group a history of the cane noting that Boston distributed a 'Golden Cane' to communities but unfortunately, Blandford was not one of them. In good faith, the members of the Council on Aging at time made this a composite to dedicate to the person in town that holds the distinction of being the oldest resident in Blandford. Mikuski would like to see this cane displayed in the Town Hall along with a plaque that will honor these residents.

b. Purchase a new Shed & Grill

Mikuski spoke of purchasing a shed for the COA so we can expand our storage space. The group agreed that this should be purchased for approximately \$850. We will investigate laying down stone as a base and placing it at the back of the Town Hall.

c. Exercise Equipment Storage

Heidi Taberman, our Monday morning exercise guru, has mentioned the need for a locker-type cabinet to secure the exercise equipment. Martin will investigate purchasing a locker for the Monday morning exercise class group.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Restaurant Depot – Supplies/Food

Mikuski recommended this company to purchase our equipment and food items going forward. Joann Martin will process the application and visit the facility to see if this would work for the COA.

b. House Numbers

The Hampden County Sheriff’s Department is donating 10 house numbers free of charge to Blandford residents including installation. These house numbers will be mounted at the base of the resident’s driveway. Mikuski will compile a list of homes that may be interested.

c. Meals from Highland Valley

Mikuski reported that she was contacted by Highland Valley Elder Services inquiring why Blandford does not receive any meals from Highland Valley. Mikuski told the group that the Blandford Council on Aging does their own cooking twice monthly and enjoy the social aspect of gathering this group and are reluctant to give this up. The group agreed that they would like to continue what we are offering at this time.

**MOTION: Heidi Taberman made a motion to decline using Highland Valley Elder Services for our Council on Aging meals
J. Martin Seconded
Motion Passes**

d. Attempt to Stop Using Paper and Plastic

Margit would like to see the COA stop using disposable items for our events. It was suggested that the Restaurant Depot may be a good place to replace our paper goods with glass or reusable plastic.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:50 pm The next COA Meeting will be Monday June 6, 2022, at 1:00 pm

Meeting Minutes Presented by Joann Martin, Member Council on Aging

Heidi Taberman, Member

Robert Twyman, Member

Barbara Langmore, Member

Joann Martin, Member

Pat Lombardo, Member

Margit Mikuski, Director