



TOWN OF BLANDFORD

Council on Aging
1 Russell Stage Road
Blandford, MA 01008

MEETING MINUTES COUNCIL ON AGING January 09, 2023

1. Open Session at 1:00 pm

Meeting is recorded

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

1. EXAMINATION OF MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETINGS:

a. Examination of the Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2022

MOTION: Bob Twyman made a motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of October 17, 2022, as written.

H. Taberman Seconded

Motion Passes

2. BUDGET REPORT:

None

3. OLD BUSINESS:

a. Procedure Forms for COA Vehicle: The Board examined the forms and suggested changes: **Transportation Rules & Regulations for Volunteers**

The Transportation Rules will be part of the orientation for all new COA drivers.

Vehicle Check List – Driver's Log

The Vehicle Check List will be used to ensure the vehicle is sanitized for the next passenger.

Incident Report

The Incident report is there to communicate with the Director if an accident or emergency incident should happen, however 911 should be called in this case.

Joann Martin will take care of changes to these forms. All these forms will be found in the COA vehicle.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Eversource Brown-Outs

Mikuski reported the possibility of brown outs reported by Eversource. Mikuski spoke the Christopher Dunne, Town Administrator who informed her this will not be the case.

b. Request for Donations

Mikuski spoke of requesting donations in the past and asked for the Board's opinion about doing this again as it's been a couple years since this has been done. The Board looked at the Donation Request Letter and suggested changes. This mailing will be out late January 2023.

MOTION: H. Taberman made a motion to accept the Donation Request for Council on Aging
B. Twyman Seconded
All in Favor

c. Blandford Town Nurse

Mikuski spoke to the Blandford Town Nurse who will be joining the COA for the monthly luncheons to do blood pressure checks and answer general questions for seniors.

d. St. Patrick's Day Lunch Date

A resident and frequent luncheon attendee suggested the St. Patrick's Day luncheon should be on St. Patrick's Day. The Council on Aging will hold the March St. Patrick's Day luncheon on March 17, 2023 and the breakfast will be March 31, 2023. We will return to the 2nd and 4th Friday in April 2023.

e. Transfer Station Decals

Mikuski is working with the Board of Health as the feeling is that seniors, and especially seniors living alone, should not pay the same price for a Blandford Transfer Station decal as families do. She will join the BOH in their weekly meeting to discuss this.

f. Water Department Bills

Mikuski spoke about the extreme increase in Town water bills. Martin suggested she speak to the Water Commissioners at their monthly meeting to get a better understanding of these increases. Twyman mentioned the fact that electricity rates have tripled, propane rates have soared, chemical rates have soared. Martin mentioned that under previous management, the Water Department building has been neglected for years and water rates have not gone up in years.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:50 pm

Meeting Minutes Presented by Joann Martin, Member Council on Aging

Heidi Taberman, Member

Robert Twyman, Member

Barbara Langmore, Member

Joann Martin, Member

Absent

Pat Lombardo, Member

Margit Mikuski, Director