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TOWN OF SHREWSBURY

Council on Aging

Shrewsbury Senior Center 98 Maple Avenue, Shrewsbury, Massachusetts 01545-5398

Council on Aging Board Meeting January 12, 2022 Minutes

Present: Shashi Menon, Virginia Leonard, Betsy Zuegg, Louise Russell, Jean Campaniello Staff present: Hollie Lucht, Christine Moriarty, Renee D'Argento The meeting was recorded by Krista Fogg of Shrewsbury Media Connections

- 1. The meeting was called to order at 9:02am
- 2. Motion to accept December 2021 minutes; motion carried
- 3. Review and Act on Financial Reports
 - a. Account totals reviewed
 - b. Note: Re: Formula Grant we have not been awarded the full amount yet.
 - c. Questions:
 - i. General Fund- the postage amount for the newsletter is to mail, not to print newsletter. This is the annual amount (\$2000).
 - ii. Volunteer Appreciation event- date is delayed due to Covid surge
 - iii. Gift Account- holiday wreaths were given to participants of the Holiday Lights Tours and to Senior Center visitors.

4. Director's Report:

- a. Outreach Coordinator report:
 - i. Lots of outreach over the holidays
 - ii. Distributing Covid test kits
 - iii. Savvy Caregiver Program- 10 participants attended 6 sessions. New program to begin in April
 - iv. Lukas Kuhn, the intern, will return in January for one day per week
 - v. Fuel Assistance applications are on the rise as well as Share the Warmth applications
 - vi. Delays in approvals for fuel assistance are due to backlog at SMOC. Can take up to 8 weeks to process applications. SMOC covers many member towns.
 - vii. Small Home Repair updates: in 2020, 20 requests; 17 completed. In 2021, 48 requests with 40 completed. There has been excellent and appreciative feedback from the recipients!

b. FY'23 Budget

- i. Budget request presented and reviewed
 - 1. General fund- salaries- One goal is to have full time employee salaries come from the General Fund, not from the Formula Grant;

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annual salary increases come from the Finance Committee, not the COA.

c. COVID updates

 Masks are required and/or face shields; no congregate dining or refreshments; as of Monday, January 3, one-third hybrid model for staffing: limited staff and reduced hours 9am-3pm. Very few activities have been affected.

d. FY'22 Programs

- i. Programming is still happening with slight modifications.
- ii. 23rd Anniversary of the Shrewsbury Senior Center Celebration! April 25-29 is planned for a week-long celebration. **Hollie would like input from everyone to make it a great event! Email Hollie with ideas for events that could take place that week. Suggestion to form a planning subcommittee and to collaborate with the Friends Group.

5. Transportation, Fares, Ridership

- a. All requests for transportation have been fulfilled. We have 6 van drivers; no fares until 2023!
- b. Good news: we were just awarded a Mass. D.O.T. grant of \$28,000 to assist with transportation services! Congratulations to the staff!!

6. New Business

- a. Tax Aide services through the AARP will be offered from February to April. Details are in the February newsletter.
- b. Review of the Open Meeting Law. No small group conversations via email. Put items on the monthly agenda and/or set up a meeting to discuss topics/issues.
- c. SHINE discussion will take place at the February meeting
 - i. Examine the program and its impact at the Shrewsbury Senior Center
- d. YAHOO program to be discussed with a request to vote on the program

Meeting adjourned 10:27am.

Respectfully submitted, Betsy Zuegg COA Board Recording Secretary