

DRAFT
Ashland Council on Aging
Minutes
March 5, 2020

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 AM by Chairperson Alexis Christopher.

Board Members:

Present: Alexis Christopher, Jean Delouchry, Joanne Fahy, Diane Hansen, Carol Love, Sara Perkett, Jim Zebrowski

Guests: Izzy Assencoa (Chair, Friends of the Ashland Council on Aging), Joanne Duffy (Director, Senior Center)

Mission Statement: read by Jean.

Citizen Participation: none

Secretary's Minutes:

Jim read the February minutes. Jean moved to approve the minutes with minor edits. Sara seconded the motion. Approved 5-0-1.

Director's Report:

There will be a Town health fair in the Great Room on April 1, so no programs will be scheduled there on that day.

March will be a busy month.

More events are requiring signups. The calendar shows only events requiring signup.

A new program, Mindful Living, is experiencing low participation, so it might be cancelled.

People are loving the Fake News series.

Day Program: Candi is working on a grant from the MetroWest Healthcare Foundation. The grant request includes a gazebo. We are also seeking money from the Friends. The program would start with one Monday per month, with a goal of twice per month, and will include lunch and transportation. We are looking into adding two hours to transportation.

Clocktown Café: Joanne Duffy has requested grant money. She hasn't needed to use the BAA grant for entertainment, so she will ask whether the money can be repurposed. Attendance has been as high as 15.

Our robotic cats can't be taken home and BAA grant money can't be used for things that are given away. We can, however, accept a donation for a cat to be given away.

We are still working on a Purple Table at Stone's.

Jean said the census shows a big increase in retirees.

Stone's will be hosting the Speed Dating event. More women than men have signed up. Jim suggested having an outside men's group meet here. Alexis suggested having some male-centric topics.

The Fire Department lunch has lots of signups.

Kim and Candi are dementia certified and will seek national certification.

We're getting a new storage shed, which the Town will install.

Joanne Duffy distributed an MCOA handout on the Corona virus. Alexis suggested having a speaker.

Carol made a motion to approve the Director's Report, Alexis seconded. The motion was approved 6-0-0.

Old Business:

Rebranding: Joanne Duffy is leaning against changing our name. We are who we are. She passed around sample logos. Alexis said that logos were effective at Raytheon. Jean asked what other senior centers are doing. Joanne Duffy responded that they're talking about it. Sara suggested letting it percolate. Alexis tabled the topic.

New Business:

Title III Grants: Candi talked to BayPath about the day program. She's somewhat concerned that we might end up with too much money. This is the time of year that BayPath seeks grant applications.

One Last Thing...

Carol said that there's a lot going on about the Corona virus.

Alexis said that she asked Barbara Thoresen to consider returning to the Council. She said that Steve Mitchell never got back to her about filming at the Senior Center.

Jim said that John Pacek is considering attending the next meeting.

Adjournment:

Meeting adjourned at 11:34 am.

Submitted by Secretary

Jim Zebrowski

Documents distributed:

February minutes

Director's Report

BayPath Board Meeting Highlights

MCOA Membership Alert