

Belmont Council on Aging Board Minutes

Date: March 7, 2022

Virtual

Present: K. Donelan T. Dukas, C. Lai ,J. Morrison, M. Scali ,J. Shapiro, T. Olson, Chair, M. Wayne, D Bickelman and Nava Niv-Vogel, ex-officios

Absent: J. Semuels, A.Paschal, E.Sullivan, M Paolillo Select Board Liaison

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BELMONT, MA**

DATE: April 6, 2022

TIME: 3:36 PM

1. Call to Order: 7:07pm., by M. Wayne, T. Olson, Chair, took over at 7:33pm

2. Senior Citizens Concerns – M. Scali

- Discussion of Pickleball and tennis - use of courts for both popular activities, therefore scheduling difficulties arise.
- C. Lai mentioned that the problem should be referred to the Recreation Department.
- N. Niv-Vogel stated that Belmont Helps provided information about how to access on-line store coupons at Star Market. That information will be distributed in the e-newsletter.

3. Updates and Correspondence

A. Director

- N. Niv-Vogel praised the current cleaning person for doing a great job. D. Bickelman felt his attention to detail kept the Center in good order during the pandemic.

B. Assistant Director

- New programs will begin April 1. Seniors will be grandfathered for discounts to Underwood pool use.

C. Bequest

- A bequest of \$10,000.00 was made to the Belmont Senior Center. There was some confusion about how the money would be accepted. The Friends of the Council on Aging voted to give the money to the COA to administer. A portion of the money will be earmarked for transportation.

D. Springwell

- Jane Shapiro discussed the subject of a merger between Springwell, which covers eight towns and Baypath, which covers fourteen towns. As an example of the similarity between the two organizations, both have almost the same qualifications for the case manager position.

E. Transportation working group

- The volunteer driver program will resume in April. Having learned from other communities about covid related safety guidelines for the program we are now waiting on Town Counsel to approve new waivers for participation in the program.

- F. The Town's Economic Development Committee - the Committee has worked with the Urban Land Institute on development issues at Waverly Square.

G. N. Niv-Vogel will follow up on the need to promote the Center in the Chinese community

- N. Niv-Vogel briefly discussed the impact of rescinding the mask mandate: those who disliked wearing masks may now return to the Center; others, more concerned about Covid may stay away.

H. Intergenerational Programming: T. Olson suggested that BHS should be contacted to establish relationships between the school/students and the Center.

4. New Business

- K. Donelan pointed out that money designated for the Center when people pay their property taxes is down as people now pay online and there is no place to indicate a contribution to the Center.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:20pm

Next meeting Monday, April 4, 2022, 7pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ted Dukas