



TOWN of LINCOLN

Council on Aging & Human Services

*c/o Town Offices
16 Lincoln Road
Lincoln, Massachusetts 01773
Phone (781) 259-8811*

Board Meeting Minutes January 11, 2021

Virtual Meeting Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order, as extended on June 15, 2021, with the Governor's signing of Senate Bill #2475, Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

Board Members Present: Laura Crosby, Sally Kindleberger, Wendy Kusik, Donald Milan, Florence Montgomery, Jane O'Rourke, Terry Perlmutter, Donna Rizzo, Dilla Tingley (Chair).

Staff: Abigail Butt COA&HS Director.

Other Attendees: Collette Sizer (Minute-taker), Peter Von Mertens (Guest).

Welcome: Dilla Tingley called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM and took roll call.

Approval of December 14, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Terry Perlmutter moved to approve the minutes. Donna Rizzo seconded. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Liaison Reports:

Housing Commission Meetings (Victoria Benalfew, not present)

- Abigail Butt, in attendance at the last Housing Commission meeting, commended their support for affordable housing.
 - Abigail explained that COA&HS presented to the Community Preservation Committee and asked for \$60K. If it is supported, then it will go to the Town Meeting for final approval.
 - This program serves as a bridge for current participants until they can get a mobile voucher [MA Section 8 Voucher Program] from the State.
 - COA&HS limits the request to \$60K, which is a participant load that current staff can handle.
- Several board members questioned whether Lincoln affordable housing is truly affordable. Abigail responded that although there are 60 units at Oriole Landing, but only 15 are moderately affordable.
- Terry asked whether COA&HS should ask the Town for more staff funding. Abigail has asked for funding for an additional 20 hours of Social Service Staff support and made the same request via ARPA funds.
 - Carlee Castetter, Transportation Coordinator will graduate in May with a Masters in Social Work and will continue with COA&HS should increase funding be increased to from 20 to 40 hours.
 - Abigail also put in a request to the Town to increase Amy Gagne's, Assistant Director, time by 5 hours.
- Dilla updated the group on the ARPA meeting the prior evening. The committee recommended approval of all requests. If approved, the next step is a town wide meeting on 2/2/22. The meeting will be on Zoom and Abigail will make sure it is sent out to the board.

Trip Committee (Donna Rizzo)

- No trips are planned for March and April.
- Trips are planned for May to Long Hill Garden in Beverly and the musical "1776" [at Loeb Drama Center] in Cambridge.
- There are three new members on committee.
- Any trip suggestions should be sent to Donna or Amy Gagne.

Minuteman Senior Services (MMSS) (Wendy Kusik)

- Last meeting was primarily talking budgets.



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- Florence Beaudry was attended as a new potential member at large. Her seat on the board is awaiting approval. MMSS is still looking for members from several other communities. Any names should be forwarded to Wendy Kusik.
- Currently 98% of MMSS staff are vaccinated. Vaccination requirements will be extended to volunteers, including Meals on Wheels.
- The most recent Report on MMSS services indicated that 330 Lincoln residents were served. There are 21 Lincoln consumers who Meals on Wheels in year 2021.

SHINE (*Don Milan*)

- Elaine Miller, the Regulatory Directory, asked Don Milan to work on Medicare 101.
- MMSS reported 104 Lincoln residents served by SHINE. Abigail will confirm the number of seniors served by SHINE this year.

Diversity Initiative (*Florence Montgomery, Hope White*) - *See the book report emailed on January 10*

- Abigail requested a cover sheet for general materials on climate change and the pandemic to clarify why the information is diversity related.
- The board expressed dismay that COVID will prevent people from coming to BEMIS to view the books.
 - Abigail suggested that COA&HS might put them on display in the library entry.
 - Florence Montgomery will keep the publications and, if contacted, can leave them outside her door for people to pick up.
- ARPA funds are available for the school and town-wide Diversity initiative.

Announcements/Director's Report (*Abigail Butt*): – *See Director's Report attached*

COA&HS anti-racism, Diversity, & Inclusion Initiative (*Abigail Butt*)

- DEI work put on hold for the moment due to COA&HS role in COVID testing and test kit distribution.

Social Services Update

- Abigail commended the Lincoln Girl Scouts for their community service participation in the Salt and Sand Bucket program. 20 Lincoln seniors received free sand/salt buckets delivered directly to their door by the Girls Scouts.
- The Holiday Gift Bags initiative was successful thanks to volunteers, FLCOA & COA boards, the Lincoln Family Association, Lincoln Girl Scouts, and volunteers.

COVID testing kits & clinics

- Lincoln was given over 900 rapid tests earmarked for those with economic need or those deemed a close contact who were unable to acquire a rapid test or PCR test elsewhere. COA&HS distributed 350 to Lincoln disadvantaged residents.
- Public Safety is hosting PCR testing clinics at the Pierce House. Some results are slow to report because of the volume of tests the lab is receiving.
- Abigail and Tricia McGean, the Town Public Health Nurse, provided a presentation on COVID that is posted on the Town website.

Noteworthy Programming

- *Additional "Chat with a Nurse" sessions are being provided.*
- *The Podiatry Clinic is temporarily paused. People 90 and over and those with underlying conditions are very susceptible to hospitalization due to COVID. These are the individuals primarily served by the podiatry clinic.*



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Given that a person can be contagious for up to two days before symptom onset, the Town Public Health Team recommended pausing the clinic.

- Learn to Zoom with Andy Payne and a Zoom event on Codman Estate's Connoisseurs & Collections is scheduled.

Old Business

Status of the New Community Center – No update

New Business

Discussion of potential new COA Board member

- Abigail asked the board to consider the approval of Peter Von Martens as a new board member.
 - Peter currently serves on the Lincoln Medical Reserve Corp and has volunteered during the Town Senior COVID vaccination clinics. He contacted both the Town Administrators Office' and the Massachusetts Ethics Commission to clarify conflict of interest given that Peter would like to be the liaison to the Friends of the COA board as well. There are no issues.
- Don Milan moved that Peter Von Martens be approved as a COA&HS board member. Dilla Tingley seconded. The motion was approved unanimously with no objections.
- Abigail will send a note to the Select Board. They will deliberate and then send Peter a note of his acceptance.

Adjournment: Dilla called for a motion to adjourn. Laura Crosby so moved, and Florence Montgomery seconded. The Motion to Adjourn passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 2:04PM.

NEXT MEETING:

February 8, 2022, at 1:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Collette Sizer, Minute Taker
January 12, 2021