



TOWN of LINCOLN

Council on Aging & Human Services

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

Board Meeting Draft Minutes January 10, 2023

Virtual Meeting Pursuant to Governor Baker's March 12, 2020 Order, as extended on July 16, 2022, with the Governor's signing of Senate Bill #2475, Suspending Certain Provisions of the Open Meeting Law.

Board Members Present: Tom Casey, Laura Crosby, Dilla Tingley, Wendy Kusik, Donald Milan, Jane O'Rourke, Terry Perlmutter, Kathy Ramon, Hope White.

Staff: Abigail Butt (COA&HS Director)

Other Attendees: Collette Sizer (Minute-taker)

Welcome

Dilla Tingley called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Dilla asked for any changes or additions to the January 10, 2023 minutes. There were none. Kathy moved that the minutes be approved. Terry Perlmutter seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Announcements/Director's Report (*Abigail Butt*)

Social Services Update

Abigail summarized highlighted content, i.e. the new congregate meal and English at Large programs, and the Boston Post Cane ceremony, to note a few.

- The Senior Salon, in collaboration with Minuteman Tech, received recent publicity on Channel 5 News and the program is doing well.
- The IDEA Committee is offering a public forum on February 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Noteworthy Programming

Abigail will send a summary of upcoming programming to the board.

- AARP Tax Aide is available again. COA&HS is taking appointments.
- Senior Salon will be March 17 and May 5.
- Lincoln Academy continues to meet on Fridays. Upcoming this February is a presentation by Ray Shepard on Black History Month in the era of CRT-book banning on February 17.
- Two intergenerational events are scheduled during vacation week the Ice Cream Social on the 21st and Tree Tapping on the 24th.
- March events are musical/theatrical and two are collaborative efforts with Friends of the COA and the Friends of the Library.

Liaison Reports

Housing Commission Meetings (*Terry Perlmutter*)

Terry reported.

- The Housing Commission continues to expand board seats. They hoping to change the committee structure, i.e., to allow residents to be appointed rather than elected.
- The Commission is active with the Housing Choice Act Working Group and the planning for Lincoln Center.



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- The Town will vote on whether to support more dense housing and more affordable housing near the train station.
- The Select Board January Newsletter was referenced for more information.
- Questions were raised about the proposed expansion of The Commons. It was noted that they are non-profit.

Trip Committee (Donna Rizzo, absent)

Tom reported that the committee will begin meeting again soon. They will consider offering fewer trips but to better destinations.

Minuteman Senior Services (MMSS) (Abigail Butt/Wendy Kusik)

Wendy reported.

- MMSS is moving to a new building in April that will better meet their needs.
- They continue to seek volunteers for the BOD and committees. There are COA vacancies in multiple towns. A subcommittee is working on this, but results are slow.
 - A workshop by Powerful Tools for Caregivers will be in February.
 - Board members can be at large and do not have to be from within the participating towns.
 - The current board is a diverse group with regard to skillsets.
 - Tom Casey expressed some interest.
- Bedford recently received an ARPA grant based on population size and socio-economic status.
- MMSS is working to rebrand the organization.
 - They are setting up focus groups.
 - They would like a new image and want to expand diversity.

Diversity Initiative (Hope White)

Hope reported. February is Black History month.

- Hope went to see the Embrace Sculpture on Boston Commons. It's beautiful and unique.
- A black film series will be offered at Tewksbury Memorial High School theater.
- An Evening of Blacknificence will be offered in Newton at the First Unitarian Universalist Society.
- Meet Malden Black Artists will be held on February 26 at the Gallery@57 in Malden.

Report on Community Center Building Committee (Peter Von Mertens, absent)

Abigail reported that applications were reviewed and six architects meeting requirements were selected and four will be interviewed.

Adjournment

Dilla called for a motion to adjourn. Terry so moved, and Cathy seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 1:42 p.m.

NEXT MEETING:

March 14, 2023, at 1:00 PM

Respectfully Submitted,
Collette Sizer, Minute Taker
February 15, 2023