

ROCKPORT COUNCIL ON AGING

MINUTES FROM TUESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2016

Present: Faye Anderson, Chairman, Diane Bertolino, Director, Roger Lesch, Joanne Wood, Donald Sudbay, Diane Derow, Sue Terry, Colleen McGrath, Maureen Beeley, Shirley Conway, Gil McCarthy.

Absent: Christine Marik.

Attending: Mitchell Viera, Assistant Town Administrator.

Distribution: Minutes from Tuesday, December 1, 2016, Agenda, Tuesday, December 1, 2016, Director's Report, January 19, 2016, Activities Calendar, January 2016, Town of Rockport Expenditures Report, General Fund, State Grant, and Other Special Revenues, 07/01/2015-06/30/2016, Unduplicated Client Count and Total Units Provided by Activity-Recreation-12/02/2015-1/16/2016, Unduplicated Client Count and Total Units Provided by Activity-Supportive Services.

Meeting Called to order: 5:30 p.m.

Minutes from Tuesday, December 1, 2015. Motion by Shirley Conway. Seconded Maureen Beeley, Unanimous.

Director's Report: Diane reported that 36 seniors enjoyed a bus trip to Springfield & Stockbridge to see the lights and the Norman Rockwell Museum. The following week 46 seniors attended a shopping trip. 30 seniors attended a wreath making class from Audrey's Florist was subsidized by the Friends of COA. The monthly birthday party was attended by 17 seniors. Finally, the Holiday luncheon served 25 seniors. Music and Santa were provided.

Classes have been well attended. Tuesday and Thursday Yoga classes have between 28-35 people. A Friday Yoga class has 15. Additional morning classes are

being considered payable by the month. Art and Computer class have begun a January session.

Diane also reported trouble with the building heating system. Diane followed up with a call to Bill Balzarini, Joe Parisi, Todd Oil, and MBT Electric. There was discussion by the COA members regarding this issue and the importance of resolving it.

The refrigerator and stove have also not been working properly. Repairmen were notified.

The 8 year old treadmill needs to be replaced said Diane. Diane reported that it will cost \$548.00 to repair not including labor. The COA members discussed several ways to replace the treadmill through donation, grant sources.

Members stressed the importance of outside lighting, especially during the winter months.

CORI's/SORI's and Ethic tests for COA members were discussed. Diane, Paula, and all exercise instructors recently took a CPR course.

A mall trip is still being provided by CATA with a small number of people from the COA.

Diane further reported that the COA was selected by the Rockport Cultural Council for a \$250.00 grant for a theatre show by Stephen Collins to be performed at the Center.

An updated COA brochure will cost about \$296.00 for 1000 copies.

Diane reported efforts to continue bus trips to Essex Technical School with Friends of COA funding the trips and to include as many seniors as possible.

The annual very popular Friend's Duck Race will be held on Saturday June 4th.

A lobster roll luncheon will be held in the spring.

Discussion: Faye stated that the COA section of the Town's Website needs to be enhanced. After some discussion Diane Derow, Colleen McGrath, and Gil McCarthy volunteered to be on a website sub committee.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m. Motion by Maureen Beeley, Seconded by Diane Derow. Unanimous.

Respectfully Submitted,

Roger Lesch, Secretary

Director's Report
January 19, 2016

The first week of December began with a bus trip to Springfield & Stockbridge to see the lights and view the Norman Rockwell Museum. The 36 seniors enjoyed the trip very much. The next week, we had a shopping trip with 46 people attending. Our wreath making class for 30 people was assisted by Audrey's flower shop, The Friends of the Council subsidized this event. Our birthday party was well attended with 17 and our Holiday Luncheon had 25 people attending. We provided musical entertainment and a visit by Santa.

Classes have been well attended. Our Yoga classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays have been between 28-35 people. Our later class on Friday is approximately 15. People like to come to the earlier class. I would like to try a class from 8:30-9:30 and then a second class from 9:45-10:45 either on a Tuesday or Thursday. I have also thought that maybe we should cap the class at 25 and have people pay by the month, but this would limit people as some do not want to commit to a specific day. Also, some only take the class once a week. Other classes are well attended. Art and computer class have begun a session in January.

We have had trouble here with the heat, refrigerator, stove, telephones, and treadmill. The heat in some of the rooms was running too cold. Seniors were putting their coats on again. I had a daughter call me and say that Bingo was the only activity that her mother comes to and she would not come back until the heat is working properly. Bill Balzarini, Joe Parisi, Todd oil, and MBT Electric have been here. On another day the kitchen cabinets were shaking. I called Joe and he had Todd Oil come do a cleaning. The refrigerator was out of order for two days. It was throwing heat. After the repair man left, the refrigerator did not get cold enough, so he had to make a return trip. It seems to be working correctly now. The stove is out of order. The oven will not shut off. The meal program uses their warmer so it is really not affecting them right now. Our treadmill is broken and will cost over \$548.00 to fix. This is the cost of the part. This does not include labor. The treadmill is approximately 8 years old. I did get a price for a commercial treadmill. The price I received was \$3,2 I did ask the Friends if they would consider purchasing one as I did not know the prognosis at the time as Sears did not come before the Friends met. The Friends said they would consider purchasing one. The other options for purchasing one would be to write the grant to the Institution of Savings for this purchase or apply for Community Preservation Funds. If we applied for Community Preservation Funds, we would not receive the money until November. Faye put the notice on a few websites in Town that the COA is looking for a Treadmill. Paul Kolterjohn called and said he has one that is 5 years old and barely used. He said we could have it. Does anyone have any thoughts?

The thank you letter was in the newspaper. Our newsletter went out in December for January activities. Assisting with the Ethics tests took much time as some would not print out the certificate after they took the test. It was a glitch in the test. CORI's/SORI's have been given to Mitch and some have been already approved. All exercise instructors, Paula, and myself have taken the CPR course.

CATA is continuing to pick up people for the mall. We have only had approximately 2 people going from here.

The Council on Aging received notice that we were selected for the Rockport Cultural Council Grant (\$250) for a theatre show by Stephen Collins to be performed here at the Center. We have scheduled an April date for this performance.

The price for the new brochure for 1,000 will be approximately \$296.00. It will not take long to do as Seaside Graphics has done this for us previously.

I have requested from the Friends of Rockport COA to pay for a small bus for a trip to Essex Technical School for the balance of the people on the waiting list who were not able to go today as we were limited to 24 people. The Friends have agreed to do this. If this works out, for the future, we would like to provide this monthly with different people going each month to give everyone an opportunity to go to the school if the Friends would agree to pay. I met with the Friends this month and they have scheduled their duck race for the first Saturday in June which is the 4th. They will retain the permits needed for Millbrook Meadow and Sign permits.

Our lobster roll luncheons are very popular in the summer and we are planning one for the spring time.

Regarding the applications for the Institution for Savings, I will need a biography from all the board members as they request this in the application.

The town report was sent to Debbie Powers.

I will be scheduling a vacation for February or March.