

COA MEETING DECEMBER 21, 2021

Attendance: J. Cappe, I Eskett, J. Zienowicz, C. Haigh Meeting called to order by J. Cappe at 9:03 am

J. Cappe motioned to accept the November 2021 minutes J. Zienowicz seconded all in favor.

New Business

Our new Social Services Coordinator, Janine Leis is still being certified for some programs like SNAP and SHINE, which is regional and anyone can apply for them. Due to Covid restrictions, Janine has to wait until spring to get certification training for the SHINE program, which includes Medicare and Medicaid, also due to Covid she cannot do home wellness checks to shut ins at this time. She is currently making appointments to help clients apply for fuel assistance. We are looking forward to having Janine attend our next COA meeting in January 2022.

Covid update

Due to high positivity rate of Covid in Ware, the mask mandate is still in effect in the senior center, all programs require a mask to participate. No dining in meals, grab and go served in the parking lot, \$2.00 per meal.

Bread lottery

There was some confusion over the bread lottery, which consists of the staff at the front desk picking a numbered chip out of the bag and writing the person's name and number down and they are called in the order that they are received, to go in the bread room and pick one bread and one dessert.

After discussion it was determined that this is still the fairest way to distribute the donated bread items from Big Y.

New programs

We have a small group acting as a pilot program for Pickle ball, which is free on Mondays and Wednesdays 1-8pm. The sign-ups are done online at a private page on signup.com. Zienowicz has access to the site and is able to determine who and when people are planning on playing. The program is being run as a pilot to work out scheduling and logistical problems (set up/break down/ equipment) before opening up to a much bigger population. This may also become something the Town could look into building courts for at a location like Grenville Park.

Chair yoga to start on Friday January 14, afternoons 1pm-2pm for \$5 per class.

Food Program

Alton and kitchen staff are doing a great job. In December, Country bank donated \$2,000 to the lunch program. Friends of the Ware Seniors Inc. donated \$344.55 to the lunch program.

Meal cost- \$1,332.49

Received- \$1,331.50

Profit/loss \$0.99

Total served- 771

Meals- \$1,308.25

Donations- 3.00

Country Bank- 2000

Coffee bar-

Pitch-

Bingo-

Friends of Ware- \$344.55

Total received- \$3655.08

Total purchases- \$1,808.73

Meal profit/loss \$1,847.07

Van services

20 drivers, 10 were from town (for the Quaboag Connector) were certified in November to use the lift and for defensive driving.

CPR training with J. Cappe to start in January 2022.

398 seniors got rides in November. For the purposes of the WestMass Elder Care Title III B Transportation Grant the Ware COA and QC are now combined and working together which increased our grant funding from \$5,000 to \$7,500 annually for the next two years.

Comments and Concerns

J. Zienowicz mentioned that we should dedicate the next meeting to begin working on a Vision Plan for the Senior Center to create some new goals and ideas for the future of the senior center.

Meeting adjourned by J. Cappe at 10:25 am and seconded by J. Zienowicz, all in favor.

Recorded by secretary C. Haigh

Next meeting January 18th at 9:00 am 2022.