

## **Commission on Aging January 11, 2021 Meeting Notes**

Regular Meeting time of 2:30pm canceled

Special Meeting time changed to 7:15pm

Attendees: Laura Giovannoli, Sheila Silverman, Mary Morrisroe, Debra Franceschini, George Noyes, Maureen Culhane, Cathleen Savery, Andrea Beebe, Karen Guadian, Tony Phillips

Absent: None

Meeting was held via Zoom call and the time changed due to the COVID-19 virus-  
Recorded by Tony Phillips

December meeting minutes approved: Sheila 1st; George 2nd: All approved.

Laura provided an update on the COVID Vaccine rollout. The 1B Phase is beginning soon for 75 and older and those with compromising illnesses. Visit the CDC for the guidelines. Also visit the town's website on COVID-19 management for testing and vaccine rollout and registration guidelines. RVNA will be administering vaccines. Spoke to some concerns.

The Commission unanimously thanks Lynn Marie Weiland for her service to the COA.

The COA open position has been posted at Town Hall.

Debra reported that the card writing campaign for Congregate Housing has been very successful. Still ongoing. Have received gifts for distribution also. Sphere, for example, donated keychains to be distributed.

Maureen shared she had contacted the Municipal Agent in Bethel to ask about its "Adopt-a-Senior" program and how it was implemented. She will email me when she hears back.

At the last meeting the discussion occurred as to a COA project providing a self-care/quarantine gift bag/basket to many of our seniors in town. Tonight, Debra made the motion and Maureen seconded and all approved to move forward with this program.

- Approximately 150 individuals

- Laura made the motion that we do our outreach program twice. She proposed that the events occur in February and April. Cathleen 2nd. All approved.
- Budget discussed- per event and individual Will divide our financial resources to two the two events.
- Number of local vendors identified- Debra has canvassed shops for ideas.
- Mary will contact RVNA- email me or Tony with information
- Motion made by Debra and 2nd by Mary as to the maximum amount may be spent per store. All approved
- Notecard attached to each bag with a message from COA
- Discussed meeting together to put bags together the 1st week of February
- Use of the conference room at Town Hall for assembling of bags
- Distribution to seniors discussed

### New Business

Tony discussed a local doctor who spoke with him about a dental clinic taking over an empty space on Grove Street focusing on senior dental needs.

George discussed Zoom Meeting groups o alleviate and help against isolation

Andrea proposed sending a Get Well card to Dimitri Paschalidis, owner of Dimitri DIner. Laura 1st; George 2nd; All Approved. Andrea will get a card and send it.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15pm