

COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, January 4, 2022

Meeting held virtually via Zoom

Present: Roz Gausman, Lou Havlik, Barb Manson, David Sharpe, Marcia Standard, David Thomas, Joyce Tikalsky, Susan Wollin

Staff Present: Cindy McGlynn, Hollee Camacho

Absent & Excused: Cathy Christman, Bob McGeever, Tim Onsager, Faith Schuck, Jeanne Schwass-Long

Call to order: L. Havlik called the meeting to order at 11:06 AM.

December Minutes: Moved by D. Sharpe and S. Wollin seconded to approve with grammatical corrections; passed unanimously.

Comments by Director

- In response to a question as to when COA will be meeting in person again, Cindy shared that with so many COVID cases now she can't in good faith suggest our group meet in person just yet. While the building's doors are open to the public, she feels meeting virtually is the easiest way to keep this group active and participating.
- Many of our volunteers and some staff are absent because of COVID. Some kitchen and Meals on Wheels driver volunteers are taking extra shifts and staff are filling in too. We are thankful that none of these recent absentees have reported anything more than mild symptoms.
- This time of year right after the holidays is slower for us regardless of the pandemic. We are thankful we were able to offer so many festive opportunities last month. We had a great visit on Dec. 17 from the High School Madrigal Singers. Although we weren't able to hold the meal, their performance provided a little piece of normalcy during the holidays.
- We are also grateful to the volunteers who took the time spreading holiday cheer by decorating our Center inside and out.
- Staff is doing great continuing to provide resources to the community and participants. I am very proud of the Senior Center. We have done good work this past year and we look forward to an exciting new year ahead as our plans take shape for the annex renovation.

Town Hall: The Town Hall meeting Cindy held on December 8 went very well. It was a good time to reflect on the past year, discuss the annex expansion, and answer questions. Cindy really wants to encourage participants to think outside the box on what they would like to see and dream big about what we can do.

Fundraising

- Cindy continues to meet with the City Planning Department to get an architect to help figure out the development of the annex building's layout and construction needs. They hope to have more formal plans in the next couple months.
- We are beginning to think about some opportunities for fundraising events in the spring and summer month when we can meet outdoors and hopefully more safely indoors. We are looking at using Kim's cooking talents to do more food events, participate in Gazebo Musik again and additional musical/food events in local parks. At these events we'd like to offer drawings and other things that may be lucrative for us.
- We also look forward to opportunities for fundraising in our 50th anniversary celebration planning this year. Cindy asked if anyone from COA would be interested in helping look at archive materials from 1972 to put together a little timeline of important and fun facts.
- We continue to offer the ShopwithScrip fundraiser. We can earn a percentage when people purchase gift cards through us. There are over 700 vendors participating. People are encouraged to fill out a form at the front desk and pay with check or cash. You may see a full list of vendors at: shopwithscrip.com. We see this being an ongoing fundraising option and may be looking for a volunteer to help coordinate it as orders pick up.
- Cindy estimated we currently have around \$100,000 total in donations to support our \$200,000 costs to renovate the annex. These projected costs covers equipment like key fob entrances, A/V equipment, furniture etc. in addition to the building renovation.
- Some donations have been coming in the form of memorials. We are open to ideas for how to recognize these. D. Sharpe suggested a board. S. Wollin wondered if ideas may come up as we research the archival documents.

Committee Reports: No committees met.

Julia has scheduled a Program Committee meeting for next week.

Hollie hopes to schedule an Evaluation Committee meeting soon after to address potential evaluative needs the Program Committee comes up with and to review the Evaluation Plan.

Legislative Update: The City budget is now locked in place for 2022. We are cautiously hopeful that Dane County can withstand their funding obligations as pandemic costs continue to rise.

Meeting Adjourned: Moved by B. Manson and seconded by M. Standard to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:30 AM.

Next Meeting via Zoom: Tuesday, February 1, 2022 at 11:00 AM