

## COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, January 11, 2022

The meeting was held at the Kingston Town House, Room 200, Evergreen St., Kingston , Ma.  
It was a joint session with the Board of Selectmen and was called to order at 11:30am  
Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Chairman Joe Favaloro thanked all for attending, & PACTV for filming.

**Board Members Present:** Chairman, Joe Favaloro, Vice Chairman, Austin Sennett, Secretary, Mary Hayes, Joan Hutchison, Wes Meiggs, Caty Starr. Maureen Elwood by Virtual. Paula Rossi –Clapp, COA Director.

**Board of Selectman Present:** (by Virtual) Kimberly Emberg, Richard Arruda, Sheila Vaughn.

**Also Present:** Town Administrator, Keith Hickey & Gloria Mitchell, Assistant, & Dennis Randall, Board of Health.

**Others Present:** Sharon Burgess, Kathy Studley, Evelyn Egelstrom & Richard Egelstrom, Chuck Wusenich

### **Open Forum:**

Kathy Studley, represented the **COA Knitters**, and shared the citation received from the Massachusetts House of Representatives for all the charitable knitting donations that they have made.

**Secretary's Report:** from December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting was read and a motion to accept was made by Caty Starr and seconded by Joan Hutchison, and approved by all.

**Chairman's Report:** Joe discussed the Acronym **FAST**, which stands for Stroke Symptoms. **F:** face drooping, **A:** arm weakness, **S:** speech difficulty, **T:** time to call 911! Call 911 If you show signs of confusion, numbness, or trouble seeing or walking, or a very bad headache. See complete report attached.

**Director's Report:** Paula Rossi-Clapp deferred her report to the end of the meeting. See report attached.

**Board of Health:** Dennis Randall updated the group on Covid/mask requirements and testing kits.

**Appreciation:** Joe Favaloro took a moment to extend our appreciation to the COA Friends, and all those who helped with the Christmas and New Year celebrations. Shelly Loring, **VP of Friends of COA** updated us on plans for the next few months at the center, depending on the easing of Covid restrictions.

**Budget:** The 6 month review is in good shape.

**COA Meals:** Joe asked why restaurants are able to serve food and the Senior Center is giving takeout Box Lunches. Paula explained that after discussing the situation with the BOH, BOS and the Town administrator it was agreed that with the senior population being more vulnerable, it would be best to not serve food until the Covid figures go down.

**Friday Hours Update:** After receiving a petition from Seniors ,who prior to Covid restrictions at the COA, played cards on Friday afternoon, and meeting with them at our December board meeting, it was agreed that we should meet jointly with the BOS, to discuss it further. After reopening the center, the center is still closed on Friday afternoons.

After a very lengthy discussion, between the COA Board, the BOS and Chuck Wusenich (representing the card players) Kim Emberg, BOS, suggested to put this on the agenda of a BOS meeting. The motion was made by Joe Favaloro to review the hours to reopen the Senior Center on Friday afternoons. seconded by Joan Hutchison. A vote of 6-1 in favor.

**Mission Statement:** After a brief discussion it was agreed that the Mission Statement, revised at a previous meeting be accepted. A motion was made by Joe Favaloro, seconded by Maureen Elwood, and approved by all.

The next COA Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, February 8<sup>th</sup> at the Town House, room 200, 11:30am.

A motion by Joe Favaloro to adjourn the meeting was seconded by Maureen Elwood, and approved by all.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary L. Hayes, Secretary

(As Transcribed by Joan Hutchison)

