

Pelham Council on Aging Minutes
March 10, 2021 Via Zoom

Call to order: 3:01 p.m.

Members present: Tracy Osbahr (chair), Grace Dane, Isabel Ryavec, Nancy Rose Weeber, Kathy Martell

Guest: Jane Porter

Warrant: Tom Terault, \$25, food delivery; WBMason, \$28.99, printer paper; **Total \$53.99.**

Minutes: Motion to approve February 10, 2021 minutes as written: aye Tracy Osbahr, aye Grace Dane, aye Nancy Rose Weeber.

Presentation of “My Senior Center” software information: Tracy reported on her conversation with My Senior Center representatives, that she was unable to gain access to info and/or access codes. Kathy will contact MSC to request program access for all council members and to request future program training for us, so the program can be utilized. Annual renewal fee due in April.

Discussion of Covid 19 vaccine access for Pelham seniors: All council members and our guest have received at least first covid-vax doses, four have received both doses. Tracy shared news about updated pre-registration process that should lessen current frustration with the covid-vax scheduling routine. Pre-registration is available at only the mass-vax sites. Nancy reported on Gov. Baker's news re Phase 3, Step 2 launch and re-opening plan, including schools and some business venues. In addition to individuals 65-and-older, essential workers and first responders (and those with specific medical conditions), now K-12 teachers, school staff and residents and staff of public and private low-income and affordable senior housing, are also eligible to receive covid-vax.

Update on Senior Survey results: Tracy reported on 83 completed surveys (so far) and that 96% of those replying have internet access. There were few requests for assistance and many responders expressed gratitude to the COA. Tracy will compile replies and report fully at the April meeting.

Discussion of Outreach Worker position: Lengthy discussion about how and where to publicize the open-position, what qualifications, including experience, we expect any potential candidate to hold, specifics about workload and weekly time-commitment, and questions about salary vs stipend vs volunteer position. Council members will prepare for further discussion at our April meeting.

Storage of COA materials: Discussion about some confusion re storage location for COA materials and supplies. Currently, some items are stored at the library and some at Community

Hall, where some modifications to the storage space are needed. Grace will communicate with Linda Hanscom (PCH) and Jodi Levine (Pelham Library), and Kathy and Tracy will coordinate transfer of materials.

Old Business

New Business:

1. Tracy prepared a draft of COA annual report and emailed to members. No additions or subtractions were offered during discussion. Tracy will submit final version to Susannah Carey for inclusion in Pelham's Annual Town Report.
2. Representatives from Pelham's Community Preservation Committee and the Housing Committee would like to meet with the COA to discuss financial assistance needs for Pelham senior homeowners challenged by mortgage, home maintenance expenses, etc. Tracy will follow-up.

Next meeting, Wednesday, April 14, 2021 at 3 p.m. via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 4:49 p.m.

Submitted by Nancy Rose Weeber