Pelham Council on Aging Minutes January 19, 2021 via Zoom

Call to order: 3:03 p.m.

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Members present: Tracy Osbahr, Grace Dane, Nancy Rose Weeber

Guests: Linda Spink and Jane Porter

Each member identified herself by name before offering a motion and when voting on motions.

Warrant: No items submitted.

Review of December 9 Minutes: Members present voted to accept the minutes with one addition.

Discussion of 2021 budget needs/requests: Considered level-funding for 2021. Will discuss further at February meeting and submit to finance committee prior to the February 23 deadline.

Presentation of "My Senior Center" software information: Without Kathy's participation, we were unable to discuss this program and its value. Several questions remain unanswered: What exactly is "My Senior Center" and how will it benefit the PCOA? How much does it cost and is the cost a one-time purchase, or is it annually renewable? We hope to receive detailed info from Kathy in February.

Review of Senior Survey: All present agreed that a senior survey will provide useful info as we plan ahead for PCOA activities and services. Linda suggested adding a line about "befriending our electronic devices" to the "online/virtual gatherings" option box. Tracy suggested that a "return by March 1, 2021" be included on the survey. Grace offered to stuff envelopes; she also has first-class postage sufficient for 500 mailings. Nancy will provide envelopes and will, if needed, print 500 copies of the double-sided survey. Tracy will contact Susannah re printing, return address labels, and resident address labels. She will also alert Susannah to upcoming arrival of completed surveys (via USPS or the town drop-boxes). Residences where two seniors reside will receive two surveys.

Pelham Slate and Amherst Senior Center submissions: Both submissions were published.

Discussion of potential on-line offerings: Given our mandate for virtual-only meetings, we will consider online offerings as a remedy against social isolation during the pandemic. Members will present ideas, including a possible online writing group, for discussion at our February meeting.

Final Words: Questions about availability and timing of Covid-19 vaccine linger. Nancy will continue to provide CDC updates. Tracy expressed gratitude to both Linda and Jane for their participation and insights and the hope that they would continue to attend PCOA meetings in future.

Next meeting: February 10, 2021 at 3 p.m. via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:21 p.m. Submitted by Nancy Rose Weeber