

CITY OF GLOUCESTER  
Council of Aging  
Minutes of the Meeting  
February 6th, 2018  
Rose Baker Senior Center  
6 Manuel F. Lewis Street, Gloucester, MA 01930

Board members present: Jay Gustaferro, Chairperson, Fred Cowan; Selma Bell; Susan Goodall, Rosalie Nicastro; Barry McKay; and Bob Quinn. Senior Center Director: Lucy Sheehan. Absent: Hank Camille and Mike Hale, Roseann Cody, Valerie Gilman.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Mr. Quinn to approve the Gloucester Council of Aging minutes of the meeting of January 9, 2018, Seconded by Mr. McKay.

Old Business:

Update on Food Program: Fred Cowan reports The Fresh Salad Bar held at the senior center with soup and dessert on Monday, and Wednesday and Salad Bar only on Thursdays, will be adding a fourth day and will include fresh soup, salad bar and dessert each day. The starting date is not yet determined.

New Business:

Income Tax Program: Director reports the IRS Trained volunteer Income Tax Program began at the senior center on Monday mornings and Friday afternoons through end of tax season. The program serves seniors as well as low-income people. The senior center became inundated with requests for appointments. To date, all appointment times-slots have been filled and a long waiting list exists. Problems with software, weather and less AARP program volunteers have caused delays. Staff and volunteers are trying our best to fulfil all appointment requests.

Request for Chess and Ping Pong Table: A new Chess group began to play at the senior center on Thursday afternoons in the Supportive Day Care room. The group welcomes both new and experienced players. Ten people signed up to play. The Friends of the Gloucester Council on Aging have been actively looking for a table that will fold when not in use, suitable for the senior center. Seniors requested a table, and the cost for the new table is being funded by the Friends.

Shredding Day: On April 28, we have arranged to have a Shredding Truck at the senior center. There will be no cost for the public to come and shred documents. It will be a secure truck, and shredding will take place on site. This event is held in conjunction with National Take Back Prescription Drugs Day in the senior center parking lot.

Governor Baker's Increase in funds for seniors: Governor Baker's Annual Address stated he expects to increase the budget, funding more for seniors, mainly in Formula Grant funds, funded to senior centers. FY18 saw a decrease in the amount of funding, and this year we expect to receive \$11.00 per senior, is entirely used to fund salaries at the Rose Baker Senior Center.

Other Items from Directors:

The committee unanimously agreed to postpone the March meeting due to the expected stormy weather.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am

Next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 9:30 am