

CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Council of Aging
Minutes of the Meeting
September 4th, 2018
Rose Baker Senior Center
6 Manuel F. Lewis Street, Gloucester, MA 01930

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Ms. Goodall to approve the Gloucester Council of Aging minutes of the meeting of August 7, 2018. **Seconded** by Mr. McKay. Ms. Gilman **abstained**.

OLD BUSINESS

REUSABLE BAGS- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that Carter Whitlock of the Clean City Commission came before the board at the last meeting to talk about how the Clean City Commission has several reusable bags that they would like to donate and distribute to the seniors at the Senior Center. Ms. Sheehan invited Carter to attend the annual Flu Clinic and distribute reusable bags on September 25; she stated that she would like to include educational information and distributions of reusable bags and schedule a program during October / November to offer seniors information about the new mandate. *Ms. Gilman* stated that she will assist at the reusable bag distribution during the flu clinic and will be at the Senior Center on September 25.

ANNUAL BBQ- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that annual barbeque at Stage Fort Park turned out to be a beautiful day, and the event was a success. Honky Tonk Ladies provided entertainment, and everyone enjoyed their time at the Park. She stated that 150 seniors signed up to attend and that many meals were ordered, but due to a bad weather forecast for that day, we served only about 100; although we will need to pay for the full amount of meals ordered. She stated that the DPW crew was very helpful setting up tables from the senior center, and 150 chairs we rented were delivered to Stage Fort Park for the event..

NEW BUSINESS

SENIOR CENTER ANNUAL BREAKFAST DURING SENIOR CENTER MONTH- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that September is National Senior Center Month. She stated that the Senior Center Annual Breakfast, sponsored by the Friends of the GCOA, will be held Friday, September 7, 2018 at 9:00. Volunteers will start to prepare the meal at 7:30am. She invited board members to attend the event.

SAFETY FAIR- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that TRIAD will sponsor our first Safety Fair. She stated that the Gloucester Police Chief and Domestic Violence Officer, Ron Piscitello will offer presentations, along with Captain Domenic Barbagallo of the Fire Department. City departments as the Board of Health and more, and agencies will be present to offer educational information and handouts. *Mr. Cowan* stated that he is still working on the generator for the Senior Center. The board discussed the safety of seniors during emergency events. *Ms. Gilman* stated that she will speak with the Mayor regarding discussing the issue with Joe Aiello.

MEALS PROGRAM- *Mr. Cowan* stated that he has a friend that was interested in funding the meals program on Tuesdays but he had the pricing wrong so Tuesdays and Fridays are still not funded. He stated that it is \$14,000 a year to fund one day of the meals program. *Ms. Bell* stated that they should fundraise to support the meals program. *Mr. McKay* stated that he would like a discussion at another meeting on whether the senior center is going to proceed with Rose Baker's legacy but also expand it to a community center.

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

PLASTIC BAGS- *Ms. Goodall* stated that some seniors hang plastic bags near their sink to collect food scraps if they don't have a garbage disposal and it does not seem that sanitary. It would be nice if there was some kind of bucket with a lid on it or something to give them.

COA MEETING- The next Council of Aging will be at 9:30 a.m. on October 2, 2018.

MOTION by Mr. McKay to adjourn.

Seconded by Ms. Bell. **CARRIED.**

Meeting Adjourned – 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by

Fred Cowan, Vice-Chairperson