

**City of Gloucester  
Council on Aging  
Rose Baker Senior Center  
6 Manuel F. Lewis Street, Gloucester, MA 01930  
Minutes of the Meeting  
October 2, 2018**

Board members present: Chairman, Jay Gustafarro, Selma Bell, Valerie Gilman, Susan Goodall, Barry McKay, Karin Carroll, Robert Quinn; Senior Center Director Lucy Sheehan. Absent were Roseann Cody, Mike Hale, Rosalie Nicastro

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Selma Bell to approve the Gloucester Council on Aging minutes of the meeting of August 7, 2018. Seconded by Barry McKay

OLD BUSINESS

Reusable Bag Distribution at Flu Clinic: Councilor Gilman reported. Valerie and Carter Whitlock distributed 200 reusable bags to folks during the senior center Flu Clinic. Also distributed were a Q&A information summary that answered some of the frequently asked questions about Gloucester's Plastic Bag Ordinance that will go into effect January 1, 2019.

Results of Safety Fair. The first senior center Safety Fair held in September, offered the opportunity to receive important information in matters relating to safety and protection. Mayor Theken, Police Chief John McCarthy and Officer Piscitello, from the Police Department, Domenic Barbargallo, Gloucester Fire Department and Mayor Theken were present with important information that many folks were not aware of. Board of Health, HAWK, SeniorCare, Inc. and others were available offering pamphlets and brochures relevant to the program. Many excellent reports were offered from those attending.

Assistant Fire Chief and Emergency Management: Lucy reported the new Assistant Fire Chief Aiello, visited the senior center. He was not aware of the emergency beds that we have on hand and will have them moved from the back entry to a location in the Great Hall. Aiello said he will move the emergency bags belonging to COA Triad, stored at the Fuller School site to the Magnolia Fire Station for safekeeping.

NEW BUSINESS

Title III B Older American's Grant: The FY19 roll-over from FY18 Federal grant amount of \$8,190.30 distributed by SeniorCare for Outreach services, was submitted to City Council for approval. The grant amount pays partial salary for COA Outreach Coordinator.

Brain Fitness Fair and Rally: Hear the Fun: The Fair and Rally is a first-time event at the senior center. A segment telling about the event was taped for Channel 12, at Cable TV and

Gloucester Daily Times is writing an article. This program is being planned to raise awareness that keeping your body fit will keep your brain fit, that correct hearing, socialization, exercise and physical activity all protect the brain and that is connected. We have been planning this event with David & Judi Bergeron of Beauport Hearing Service. The Bergeron donate time at the senior center twice each month for hearing aid cleanings. We are making every effort to have this be a successful event. Jennifer Aronson designed and printed posters that were posted in several locations. Organic foods will be available. Participants will be invited to stay for lunch at Rosie's Café and for the Soup and Salad Bar. Several organizations will participate as well. Great raffle prizes were donated and will be offered during the rally part of the event.

COA Van and Drivers: Volunteer names were sent to CATA for their training and drug testing regarding their eligibility to drive the COA Van. There has been a large time lapse since the names were sent to CATA, and some have now decided not to attend the training. Jay Gustaferro questioned if it be feasible that the MIM grant would allow paying drivers for the COA van for walking groups. It was suggested that Jennifer Donnelly, MIN be invited to next COA meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 10:45 am

Next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 6 at 9:30 am