

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

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Quinn to approve the Gloucester Council of Aging minutes of the meeting of October 7, 2018.
Seconded by Mr. Cowan.

OLD BUSINESS

REUSABLE BAGS- *Ms. Gilman* stated that the Clean City Commission donated and distributed reusable bags to the seniors during the senior center Flu Shots clinic.. She stated that the seniors were in favor and were grateful for the bags.

MEALS PROGRAM- *Ms. Cowan* stated that he met with Julie LaFontaine and Sara Grow at the Open Door Food Pantry regarding the Meals Program and a donor has surfaced to cover all costs at the Meal Program for one full day for the year. He stated that they now have 4 of the 5 days covered and Open Door has agreed to be the principal sponsor through Pride Stride. The board thanked Mr. Cowan for his dedication to the Meals Program. If people would like to make a donation to the Meals Program, they can donate to the Open Door Food Pantry and earmark to the Council of Aging Meals Program.

NEW BUSINESS

BRAIN FITNESS FAIR- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that the Brain Fitness Fair held had wonderful media coverage and brought many participants to the senior center for this event. She stated that many new seniors signed up for exercise programs during the fair. This new event was successful and laid groundwork for an event next year.

TITLE 3B- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that Title 3B Older American's Grant, supporting salary for the Outreach Coordinator, granting federal funds though Senior Care, was sent to the Mayor's Office for the Mayor's Report to City Council for approval. SeniorCare submitted the roll-over amount of \$8,190.00.

BUDGET- *Ms. Sheehan* discussed budget items that need Board support. The board discussed items that the Senior Center needs such as the Activity Director, the parking lot repairs, and drivers for the van. The board requested a copy of the operating budget.

MASS IN MOTION- *Ms. Sheehan* stated she looked into the Mass in Motion grant supporting a walking group. The board discussed recreational marijuana and agreed to discuss the issue at the next meeting.

SENIOR CENTER NAME- *Mr. McKay* stated that the senior center is not just for seniors and there are many events that are open to all and Rose Baker and Bruce Tobey's vision was that the center would be more accommodating to the public, not just seniors. The board discussed changing the name to the community center. *Ms. Gilman* stated that she has mixed feelings about this because they are already understaffed and under budgeted. *Chairperson Gustafarro* stated that bringing in younger people enriches the center. The board agreed to discuss this item again in the future.

BINGO- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that the people that run bingo have requested another large Bingo number's board at the rear of the great hall. She stated that the Friends last year had three TV's installed, and installing another Bingo Board would designate the room as a Bingo Hall. The Great Hall is used as a dining room, party room, and for many other activities. Board members agreed..

MOTION by *Ms. Gilman* that the Gloucester Council of Aging keep the Bingo Hall the way it is. **Seconded** by *Ms. Goodall*. *Mr. McKay* stated that they could use a projector if they want to use another wall.

FORMULA GRANT- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that the Formula Grant was submitted to EOE. Next step is Council approval..

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

PARKING LOT- *Mr. Quinn* stated that the City needs to fix the potholes in the parking lot. The board discussed the parking lot. The board agreed to put the issue on the agenda for the next meeting. The board discussed DPW representation at the meetings. *Chairperson Gustafarro* stated that Joe Lucido from the DPW has stated that he will attend meetings when there is a need for his presence. The board agreed to invite Mr. Lucido to the next meeting.

GENERATOR- *Mr. Quinn* asked about the generator. *Mr. Cowan* stated that the Mayor is working on the generator.

ROSALIE NICASTRO- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that Rosalie Nicastro is retiring from the Health Department. The board thanked Ms. Nicastro for her years of service to the City. She invited members to join with Rosalie for refreshment.

COA MEETING- The next Council of Aging will be at 9:30 a.m. on December 4, 2018.

MOTION by *Mr. McKay* to adjourn.
Seconded by *Ms. Bell*. **CARRIED.**
Meeting Adjourned – 10:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by

Jay Gustafarro, Chairperson