

North Brookfield Council on Aging  
Meeting Minutes  
November 13, 2023  
North Brookfield Senior Center, 29 Forest St., North Brookfield, MA

Present: Judy Manning, Florine Martel, Mary Waytina, Kate Norrie, Dottie Revene,  
Absent: Tara Hayes  
Also Present: Michelle Thayer, Director; Courtenay Rivera, Program and Outreach

Meeting was opened at 2:09 by Judy Manning, Chair

No October minutes were available to review.

Director's Report:

Discussion was had with the Friends of the Senior Center that they need to run the group without the help of the Director and Program/Outreach Assistant. They can not rely on staff to ensure that the fundraisers are successful and profitable.

The \$900 grant from the Diocese of Worcester was approved. Waiting for funds to come in. This grant funds activities for the health of seniors.

Notified roof demo was to start Wednesday 11/15. This is a problem as they need to cut the power. The agreement with the contractor was to start on a Friday so as not to disrupt the activities of the center. Michelle is trying to contact but had not been able to reach anyone regarding the matter as of this meeting.

Courtenay worked extra hours week of Halloween as the director was out and that is reflected in the warrant. The additional payroll is covered through a grant.

Thanksgiving dinner will be no charge to patrons as a donation was received to cover the cost. No more seats are available.

The Friends will be putting on the Christmas dinner to be catered by Common Grounds.

Tabby Lablanc has generously offered to supply music at Senior Center events free of charge.

Motion made to accept Director's Report. Judy Manning moved and Florine Martel seconded.  
Motion carries.

Program and Outreach report:

The little free pantry outside the center was vandalized. This is an ongoing issue. Police have recommended cameras. The pantry items are currently being stored inside.

The last of the weekly lunches was held on 10/25. They will resume in January.

October events:

10/2 - Game day. Attendance was low.

10/5 and 10/12 – Art class

10/11- Jumpin Juba came in to play during lunch. Performance provided through a Cultural Council Grant. Attendance was low.

10/18 - A talk was given by Ed Spader about Medicare options. About 25 seniors were in attendance.

10/26 – WCAC was at the center for current recipients to apply for fuel assistance for the year. 32 individuals were seen.

10/31 – The center was open for trunk or treat providing hot chocolate and cookies. Hannaford donated 500 cups. 600 cups of hot chocolate were served and doors had to be closed at 6.45

November/December events:

Flu clinic 11/2- low turnout

11/8 – Veterans’ Day Brunch

11/9 & 11/30 – Art class

11/15 – Thanksgiving lunch

11/20- Game day

11/22 & 11/29 – Movie day

12/20- Christmas luncheon

Five home visits were made in October.

The Shine Rep will come to the center for pre-booked appointments.

New Business:

Issue with building left unlocked

Discussion on employee issues that need to be addressed.

Old Business:

Michelle still working on upgrading front door. Supply items continue to go missing.

Motion to adjourn at 3.07. Judy Manning moved and Mary Waytina seconded. Motion carries.

Next meeting to be held on 12/11.

Respectfully Submitted,

Kate Norrie