

North Brookfield Council on Aging
Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2024
North Brookfield Senior Center, 29 Forest St., North Brookfield, MA

Present: Judy Manning, Mary Waytina, Kate Norrie, Tara Hayes

Absent: Florine Martel, Dottie Revene

Also Present: Michelle Thayer, Director; Courtenay Rivera, Program and Outreach

Meeting was opened at 2:05 by Judy Manning, Chair

Review of February minutes. Motion made to accept February minutes. Mary Waytina moved and Kate Norrie seconded. Motion carries.

Director's Report:

Shed arrived and is to be paid for from grant money. A carpenter installed a wall to separate the storage area from the lending area. The cost was \$192 for supplies and \$200 for labor. Friends paid the labor portion. Steps are needed to get in and out of the shed safely. The center has received several offers for the donation of steps as well as volunteers to build steps if needed.

The corned beef dinner is scheduled for March 20th. The cost of the meat was \$120. There are 35 seats filled. No takeout meals. Dessert to be donated by Janice.

Pergola was ordered and will be delivered on March 21st. Will be looking for volunteers to help set it up. Looking to place astroturf under the pergola. Cost is \$300 so no final decision has been made. The new lock on the supply closet has helped cut down on missing supplies. Locks will be placed on the kitchen door and coffee bar as well.

The sink is operational. Friends paid \$200 for the carpenter and \$500 for the plumber. They will also be paying the \$500 invoice for the snaking and power washing. We still need to schedule with the plumber to replace the current grease trap.

A new water dispenser was ordered and will be delivered on March 18th. The cost is \$24.99/month for twelve months and then the center owns it.

Michelle is looking for suggestions on how to have a day each week to focus on training Courtenay on director duties without interruptions. Discussed when the Director position does open the job will be posted and Courtenay will have to apply and interview along with the other applicants.

Discussion on staff issues/challenges and also not having the number of staff members the senior center had in the past.

Motion made to accept the Director's report. Tara Hayes moved and Mary Waytina seconded.

Motion carries.

Program and Outreach Report:

Courtenay attended the ServSafe training on February 19th and received her certification.

February was a quiet month for outreach appointments. There was one in-office appointment and no home visits scheduled. Calls continue to come in for help with SNAP, fuel assistance and help with housing applications.

February 5th was movie day. "An Affair to Remember" was played but no patrons came to watch.

Art class was held February 8th & 22nd. Interest in the free class continues to grow. Patrons from other centers are coming in to try the class. Due to weather and the plumbing issues, the Valentine's

Day lunch was held on February 21st. Each senior received a special Valentine made by students in Mrs. Tarentino's and Ms. Sullivan's classes at the elementary school.

The first Blood Pressure and Glucose Clinic, in collaboration with The Leicester Board of Health, was held on February 28th with a great turn out. Music Bingo took place on February 26th with approximately ten participants.

Upcoming events:

3/14 Hip Hop Chair Exercise

3/18 Music Bingo

3/19 Blood Pressure and Glucose Clinic

3/20 David Bates (music and storytelling)

4/27 Senior Fishing Derby

Motion made to accept the Program and Outreach report. Tara Hayes moved and Mary Waytina seconded. Motion carries.

Adjourned at 3:34.

Next meeting to be held on 4/8/24.

Respectfully Submitted,
Kate Norrie