

## Meeting of the Northborough Council on Aging

March 12, 2019 7:00 Senior Center

*The role of the Northborough Council on Aging is to maintain or increase the quality of life for the mature citizens of our community. We do this through support advocacy, planning, coordination, and implementation of programs that bring mature citizens together for social, recreational, and educational purposes. We seek to educate the entire community and enlist its support and participation.*

**1. Call to Order:** A meeting of the Council on Aging of the Town of Northborough was called to order at 7:00 PM by Adrienne Cost, Chair with the following also present:

Linda Cragin, Member  
Phylis Muthee, Member  
Tony Pini, Member  
Jerry Anderson, Member

Alice Stapelfeld, Member  
Henry Squillante, VP, Friends  
Kelly Burke, Senior Center Director  
Tim Kaelin, Selectman Rep.

The following COA members were not present:

**2. Approval of the Minutes:**

The minutes for the January 2018 meeting were approved (February meeting was cancelled).

**3. Friends Report**

Henry provided an update that the Calendar Raffle went well and another raffle is planned for June. The 2019 membership renewals were in process and going well, as are the results from the annual appeal. The Friends donated a new ping pong table.

**4. Director's Report**

Kelly reported on several activities: on April 30<sup>th</sup> there will be a Beatles Tribute Band, Singing in Rounds is starting up and the Chief of Police now comes twice a month for an open discussion. There is a new Vets Talk leader – who also leads discussions in Hudson and Marlboro.

**5. WRTA Advisory Report**

Dennis Lipka, who was interim administrator has been hired as the permanent administrator.

**6. Bay Path**

No report.

**7. Old/New Business and Community Awareness**

As agreed in January, the COA will work with Kelly to pursue Senior Center Director certification. The first step is a review/revision of the mission statement. Board members were asked about what the COA and Senior Center mean for them. Discussion included: welcoming, Veteran friendly, becoming family, rekindle friendships, voices heard, involved in local gov't, growth of the pool room and involvement of women, the director manages the people and programs – not a focus on the building like other Senior Centers, involvement in schools/multi-generational, breadth and depth of involvement, activities and people, the staff make the Senior Center, etc.

Kelly shared the words suggested by staff: active, real connections, purposeful, meaning, community, active engagement, caring, resource. The board discussed the shared purpose of the COA and Senior Center and various drafts of a mission statement. The final draft mission statement was agreed upon: *The COA advocates for the seniors of Northborough.* Additional lines may be further used to build on the mission statement, like, The COA educates the entire community and enlists its support.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Linda Cragin  
Secretary