

COA Minutes
June 21, 2022

Called to order at: 13:11

Attendance: Deb Lanou, Debby Wiesen-Kelly, Tony, Jim, Judie, Colleen, Meg Livingstone (perspective member)

Deb L. announced Howard's and Jinx's resignation. She then introduced Meg Livingstone.

Minutes: There was some confusion over the changes proposed to the policies and procedures as they were written in the minuets. Deb L. suggested that we accept the minutes, as written, knowing that she had copies of the latest set of proposed changes from Frank. Debby W-K moved to accept the minutes, Jim seconded. Minutes accepted with one dissenter.

Treasurer's Report: Tony mentioned that his numbers square with the numbers in the town's ledger for the month of May, but that there is a discrepancy of \$60 in the gifts account. Tony is unsure of the cause of this discrepancy, but he knows it in April or before. Jim moved to accept the report as presented); Debby W-K seconded. The treasurer's report was approved unanimously.

Chair's Report:

Deb L began with a look at the bylaws. In Article I, there was a correction for a typo.

Tony asked if there was a timeline for amending the bylaws. We are hoping to have them completed in time for the September special Town Meeting. Tony suggested that we have a copy of the original side by side with the proposed changes to facilitate making sense of the changes. Judie agreed. When she wrote the minutes, Betty had thought that everyone had access to their originals to help make sense of the changes. Judie moved that we postpone discussion until we have all had the chance to digest the proposed changes. This will happen next meeting. Betty seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. We then proceeded to vote in new officers. Deb L. agreed to be chair, Jim to be vice chair, Betty to be treasurer, Debby to be secretary

Tony moved to approve the slate of officers who are willing to serve. Judie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Deb reported that the CPC had to cancel their last meeting, so no action was taken on our proposal to them from last month.

Judie suggested that we when we refer to Deb and Debby in the minutes, we include last names so as to avoid confusion. Betty agreed to do this in future minutes.

Deb L appointed Debby W-K as new liaison to Friends.

Friends: Frank sent notes to Deb L from the last Friends' meeting. The Friends discussed different activities they have conducted. One concern of theirs is that they would like to see more participation at their events among the COA members. They would also like to see more awareness and appreciation from the COA and an idea of what the COA would like them to focus. Deb L. mentioned that there is a lot of positive energy in the Friends group, that they have some great fund raising ideas, and that it would be good if board members became more involved in what they do.

CPC: As stated above, CPC had to cancel their last meeting, so there was no action taken on our proposal.

Director's Report:

Colleen thanked all who participated in parade.

Happy Feet is still doing well. Next year we will complete the walk challenge with the former kindergartners. We also plan to do something next year with the new kindergartners.

Judie was asked to write a brief bio for next month. Others encouraged her. As Tony quoted "Every person's life is worth a novel". Judie shared a sad story about the loss of a great-granddaughter aged 6.5 months. She spoke about how this child, in her short life, touched more lives than many who have lived full lives.

The volunteer appreciation event went well. Judie had very good things to say about it.

LGBT training must be completed by the end of this month. Linda can help those who may be having trouble with the website. Meg will have a year to complete this.

Linda helped to create a request for funding for new kitchen equipment. The Selectboard approved \$1000 for new pots, pans, and other food preparation equipment.

Deb L reiterated what Frank mentioned about the COA not having any say in how the Senior Center spends money.

Judie asked if we will ever get back to having the lunches at the Senior Center. Judie spoke about how she enjoyed the in-person lunches and hopes that they can start up again soon. She misses listening to the Romeos. Deb L agrees that it is time to move forward, to get more people into the center. The general consensus is that we need to do more outreach to attract more seniors, especially the younger ones. Meg would be willing to start a writing group. Betty mentioned how successful Happy Feet has been in attracting people to Senior Center offerings. Colleen has some other events planned including some live music by the Farley String Band and a talk by an elder law attorney from Worcester,

Legislation: Nothing new to report.

N@H: The annual meeting will be Thursday, 6/23 at 4 Star. There will be a new phone number for service calls: 413-200-8183

All service calls go directly to voicemail. The voicemail then goes to the call manager via an email. Tony described the adoption of the new Google platform. (See Otter, part 2, around 15:30 and following.

Deb L asked about differences between N@H and COA. Tony explained at length. (See handwritten notes).

Other Items: Deb L. mentioned attending the Lifepath Zoom meetings and how much she has learned through them. She encourages us to avail ourselves of these when Colleen sends out the email about them.

Meg was invited to talk a bit about herself. Deb L. suggested that someone make a motion that we move forward with accepting Meg as a member. Tony so moved, and Betty seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Judie moved, Jim seconded to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 14:13

