

Minutes of the October 30, 2019 COA Board Meeting

10:05 AM In attendance: Sue LaRock, Shirley Todd, Lina Bernstein, Susan Pearson, Linda Carver, Ann Irvine, David Kramer

The meeting opened with a Welcome to David Kramer, our liaison to the Finance Committee. .

Sue LaRock turned the floor over to David, who informed us that Plainfield is now a certified Hazard Mitigation town, and as such one of its tasks is to make Plainfield an elder-friendly town. David informed us that his presence at this meeting is to hear the COA's ideas about to how to accomplish that.

Sue explained that after the holidays she will be gathering a core team together to come up with ideas based on the survey of elders done a few years ago. Said committee would include representatives from key Plainfield committees, such as the Select Board, the Planning Board, the Finance Committee, the Board of Health, and the Building Committee.

David expressed the need for a list of spaces available for the COA and other community activities. The board agreed that the committee should consider community needs as well as COA needs.

David then left the meeting.

VETERANS DAY LUNCH Tuesday, November 12:

- Letters went out to all the vets in Plainfield. So far there have been 8 acceptances.
- Sue has not yet heard from Jay McMahon or Dudley Williams, but will call them to find out if they are coming, and also to ask them to call the vets who have not yet responded.
- The menu will be spaghetti and meatballs.
- The LBS has agreed to provide salads. These will be at each table—Sue is getting 8 salad bowls for this purpose, also flags to put on each table and food for the lunch.
- We will set up Town Hall on Monday, November 11 at 10:30.

THANKSGIVING LUNCH Wednesday, November 13:

- Phil Alessio will be providing the turkey. Board members volunteered to provide

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| Onions | Susan P |
| Mashed potatoes | Lina |
| Cranberry sauce | Ann I |
| Squash | Shirley |
| Green beans & rolls | Sue LaR |
| Salad | Linda |

- Sue will call Phil to make sure he is providing dressing and gravy, and ask if he wants to provide anything else.

CHRISTMAS LUNCH Wednesday, December 11

- It was decided to serve ham rather than beef. Board members will provide the following:

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| Ham | Sue LaR |
| Scalloped potatoes | Linda |
| Green beans | Sue LaR |
| Waldorf salad | Susan P |
| Pies | Shirley and Lina |
| Rolls | Ann I |

- Linda will invite the Savoy group and tell them to bring desserts.
- The after-lunch program will be TALES OF OLD PLAINFIELD. Bob Persing will M.C. and Linda, Thelma Pilgrim, and Sue LaRock will tell stories.

REPORT ON THE MCOA CONFERENCE IN DANVERS

- Sue, Jan Gibeau and Deb Hollingsworth presented a panel, called INTO THE WEEDS, about setting up age-friendly communities in small towns.
- Sue attended a meeting about CHANGING THE NAME FROM COA to something else (We in Plainfield have been considering calling ourselves COMMUNITY FOR ALL) and found that we can change our name and still get funding. Jan Gibeau is willing to come to a Select Board meeting and explain this.
- Worthington has a new coordinator—Shelley Modesto—and she is a dynamo.

COMMUNITY CENTER REPORT:

- The committee is meeting this afternoon. Lina informed us that David is doing a survey of town spaces.
- Matt Stowell has offered to let us use his first floor as a community center. Sue will make an appointment for the Board to take a look at the space on either Tuesday 11/19 or Wed. 11/20.
- If Matt's place will work, we will need to get the town to plow behind the Shaw-Hudson House for winter parking, or possibly ask Bruce if we might use the end of his parking area.
- Again, if Matt's place will work, a grand opening would be great, maybe with Jay McMahon doing a magic show.

PROGRAMS PAST AND FUTURE:

- The Mass MOCA trip was great, but there were just 5 people there.
- Susan P suggested that we put out a suggestion box for seniors to tell us what trips they would like. Sue LaR will make a box for Town Hall.
- Shirley will send pictures of the Mass MOCA trip to the Plainfield Post and write a piece for the Post about it and about the new suggestion box.
- FUTURE PROGRAM IDEAS: Lina has been thinking about what we could do during the winter months.
 - a talk by Val Kohn (our Mass MOCA guide):
 Considering the lack of interest in our trip to Mass MOCA,
 this was not a popular idea.
 - showing the "Donut Dollies" movie—a popular idea

- a winter picnic at Pub 116—another popular idea. Sue and Lina will talk with the Pub 116 people.
- Not mentioned at this meeting were non-winter activities, but just to keep them in mind: a garden tour in June, a tour of Arrowhead, a trip to Hyde Park and or other historic houses on the Hudson.
- Sue was reminded that she will need to list all this year's programs in her annual report.

CONSORTIUM WEBSITE:

- It's up and looks great!

SADIE STULL RESIGNATION FROM THE BOARD:

- Everyone was shocked at the rudeness of what we took to be Sadie's resignation from the board.
- Shirley will advise Sadie that she has to resign formally to the Select Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Pearson