

## COA Minutes - January 17, 2024

Meeting called to order at 11:10 by Sue Honneus

**Present:** Polly Ryan, Coordinator, Sue Honneus, Mary Potter (Shirley Todd arrived later)

**Minutes** for the December 13, 2023, meeting approved

### **Coordinator Update**

A news release describing and promoting the HCDC Driver Pool Program will be forthcoming. The second invoice for the grant will be submitted by early February, at which time 1/2 of the funds will have been spent.

There is a possibility of another source of funding for the Farm to Table proposal in cooperation with Earthdance. The funds could come from a successful application to 2024 AARP Community Challenge (deadline March 6th). Since it would involve Earthdance's 5013c, they would need to take the initiative to apply.

The Board was encouraged to spread the word that the COA and the Board of Health have Covid kits. We will arrange to have them at the library. Tech Connect forms will also be available at the library.

Polly attended her first HVES (Highland Valley Elder Services) Board meeting. At her orientation, scheduled for January 29th, she will learn about the by-laws and what HVES does in general. She will also need to pick a sub-committee on which to work.

We need to schedule a LGBTQ+ training session.

The January Consortium meeting discussion centered around programming for 2024. The COA newsletter funding was cut in half again.

The highly successful Earthdance exercise classes and lunch program will continue through March.

### **Programming**

Polly has proposed initiating a Multigenerational Sharing Club, inspired by experience doing this while living in subsidized housing in Amherst. Basically, it hinges on finding activities that people of all ages and backgrounds enjoy, such as making ice cream or dancing. Call Polly to indicate interest.

Patrick Cahillane, Deputy Sheriff of Hampshire County, will speak at our February luncheon about the TRIAD Community Policing Program.

Tim Van Egmond will perform a St. Pat's concert at our March luncheon.

The Clark Art Museum in Williamstown offers free admission during March. Polly will arrange a van for a trip there if there is interest.

Polly will continue with her "Need a Friend" program. She will be available to provide company, an ear to listen, and guidance if needed. Phone - (413-212-1581) or email ([pryan@town.plainfield.ma.us](mailto:pryan@town.plainfield.ma.us))

Respectfully submitted,  
Mary Potter