

May 10, 2023

Meeting called to order at 10:24

Present: Polly Ryan, Shirley Wood, Sue Honneus, and Mary Potter

Coordinator Update

The additional \$1,500 we requested in the annual budget was approved at the Annual Town Meeting on May 6th. This brings our yearly amount to \$8,000. If there is any money remaining for the current fiscal year, we must spend it before June 30th or lose it.

Newsletter: We had hoped to get funding for our newsletter as a line item in the State budget but it was not approved. Discussion followed of ideas for getting out our news. Maybe we could buy a page in The Plainfield Post - since it comes out every two weeks, we wouldn't have a whole month's worth of news so maybe one page would be adequate. Another idea is to use the library as a place to disseminate information of interest to seniors. Currently, Peg Whalen is preparing a grant (in addition to the AARP grant already submitted) called Enhancing Digital Literacy for Older Adults which could provide the Consortium with up to \$100,000. If this should happen, we would need librarian Denise Sessions's support to display flyers and pamphlets that provide information about the services and equipment.

Polly will be purchasing a new laptop and printer with money leftover in this year's SIG (Service Incentive Grant) grant. Chesterfield has older laptops to loan to seniors.

A Consortium Memory Conference is scheduled for June 22nd from 10-3 in Chesterfield, run by Jan Gibeau, Director of the Consortium and the COA in Chesterfield and Rebecca Star, a geriatrician from Cooley-Dickinson.

After May 22nd, Polly's training for posting on the Consortium website will begin.

Future Programs

- We will sponsor a luncheon at Pub 116 on Wednesday, June 28th
- Our July luncheon will be at Spruce Corner Restaurant in Goshen, followed by a visit to the Three Sisters Sanctuary, also in Goshen.
- Our August luncheon will be at the Williamsburg Snack Bar.
- For September's lunch, we will travel to Bascom Lodge on Mt. Greylock.

We will order off the menu for all of the above places and COA will handle the tab (except for alcoholic beverages). Polly will arrange a van for all places except Pub 116 which is in town.

- Dancing with Polly continues on Wednesday, June 21 at 10AM at the Plainfield Town Hall.

- Walking Challenge - Joan Griswold will lead a walk on one of Plainfield's routes on Tuesday, May 16 at 11AM. Participants could win up to \$1,000 for their COA or a \$50 gift certificate to the Hilltown Mobile Market.

- Peg Whalen continues tech support after the June luncheon.
- June 14th luncheon menu: hot dogs, hamburgs, rolls - Polly; potato salad - Mary; dessert - Bonnie; coleslaw - Shirley
- There will be no Board meeting in June. Instead, we will attend a COA Board training meeting at the Pittsfield COA on Wednesday, June 7th at 1:30-3:30. We will go out to lunch at Patrick's Pub in Pittsfield ahead of the meeting and carpool from Sue Honneus's house at 11AM.