

COUNCIL ON AGING MEETING

Tuesday March 19, 2019 – 10:30 AM – Richmond Town Hall, 1529 State Road

PRESENT: Ms. Phyllis LeBeau, COA Director; Mr. Peter Cohen, COA Cte. Chair; Ms. Betsy Bemis; Ms. Pat Malnatti; Ms. Joanna Stengle

The meeting was called to order at 10:30 AM.

The first order of business was discussion of planning details for the upcoming Lunch and Learn on Medicare Choices on April 23, 2019.

There was a discussion of the various ways the event could be advertised to ensure that a reasonable number of people would sign up. The notice was sent out through Constant Contact as a special event notice and will be placed in the upcoming issue of the weekly e-newsletter from Town Hall as well as several other local publications.

There was a discussion of the cooperation between West Stockbridge and Richmond Councils on Aging that has been very effective in creating greater attendance at events. It was mentioned that there were 100 people attending the December Holiday Party as a result of combining the two Councils and the Town Employees' events.

The next issue was the menu for the upcoming Lunch & Learn. Ms. LeBeau advised the Committee that she had discussed with the caterer the advisability of having "finger food" and a salad, rather than plain sandwiches. There was a discussion of the kinds of dishes that might be included, using the idea of tapas small dishes as examples. Ms. LeBeau will bring the ideas provided by the Committee to the caterer. Mr. Cohen and Mr. Fran Malnati will look into getting bottled water from Ice River Springs, a local bottler and Mr. Cohen will purchase ginger ale and seltzer from a local grocery which, with coffee and tea, will provide the beverages for the luncheon.

Work teams will be created from the Committee members, all of whom agreed that they will be attending the event and will help with set up and clean up as usual.

Ms. Pat Malnatti suggested that a road trip to the Flower Show in Troy, New York at the Hudson Valley Community College be included in next year's activity plans. With its low \$12.00 per person admission fee and the closeness of the venue, it was accepted as an excellent idea. Ideas for guaranteeing enough committed attendance to be able to rent a small bus were discussed and the Committee members agrees to make phone calls to friends and neighbors to encourage their joining the trip.

Ms. Malnatti also suggested the possibility of reintroducing Pot Luck Lunches to Richmond Seniors. Ms. LeBeau favored the idea with the proviso that an interested group could be put together to make it work. That idea will be included in the phone calls made to discuss the Flower Show Trip.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 AM