

## COUNCIL ON AGING COMMITTEE MEETING

Wednesday August 7, 2019 – 4:00 PM – Richmond Town Hall, 1529 State Road

**PRESENT:** Mr. Peter Cohen, Chair; Ms. Betsy Bemis; Ms. Pat Malnati; Ms. Joanna Stengel; Ms. Phyllis LeBeau, COA Director; Ms. Linda Mitchell

**ABSENT:**

**GUEST:**

Mr. Cohen called the meeting to order at 4:00 PM.

**Review of Minutes:** Minutes of the June 20, 2019 meeting were read. A motion to accept the minutes was made, seconded and passed by unanimous vote.

Mr. Cohen reported that he has hired a magician to walk around the picnic tables and entertain the guests with card trips while people are waiting for the caricaturist artist to get to them.

Mr. Cohen suggested that the poster be revised to indicate that there will be a magician for entertainment as well as the caricaturist. Ms. LeBeau will make that revision in the poster.

**Review of COA Budget and Naming of a Treasurer:** There was a discussion as to whether the Committee was required to name a treasurer and what that person's duties would include. Ms. LeBeau presented files and documentation of the fiscal responsibilities she has been handling for the past four years. Mr. Cohen is going to contact the town Treasurer to ask whether there is any legal reason why the Director of the COA cannot continue to function as its treasurer and get back to the Committee.

During the discussion of the COA's fiscal condition, the question of whether it would be feasible to buy a new wheelchair-accessible van as the current one is in very poor condition and it most uncomfortable to ride in. Mr. Cohen will contact Mr. Neal Pilson, a Selectman, to discuss the possibilities.

**Plan for Trips to the Mahaiwe Theatre and the Mac-Haydn in Chatham:** Mr. Cohen asked Ms. LeBeau to research the programs planned at those two theatres for the remainder of the year. It was also suggested that the new venue, The Foundry in west Stockbridge be included. Ms. LeBeau agreed to conduct that research and report to the Committee on those three and the Berkshire Theatre Festival.

**Plans to trip to Flower Show Next Year with the Friends of the Library:** Mr. Cohen reported that he has been discussing a trip next year to the Flower Show in February or March in conjunction with the Friends of the Richmond Library.

**Review Plans for Picnic on August 23<sup>rd</sup>:** Mr. Cohen reminded the group that the COA has an account at Whorles where he will be purchasing the food items for the picnic with Mr. John Zick, Director of the West Stockbridge Council on Aging, which is partnering with Richmond.

There was a discussion of some of the other kinds of foods such as fresh fruit salad that will need to be purchased elsewhere as Whorle's does not carry produce.

The issue of who will be manning the grills was discussed and it was confirmed that Ms. Pat Malnati will have her husband, Mr. Fran Malnati do so as he has done in past years and Mr. Cohen will confirm with Mr. John Mountain that he will man the second grill.

The Highway Superintendent, Mr. Peter Beckwith, has been requested to prepare the grills and set up the tables for the picnic the day before with Mr. Cohen. Mr. Cohen will bring oilcloth tablecloths for the tables and Ms. Mitchell will supply water and paper towels to clean the tablecloths at the end of the picnic so that they can be reused in the future.

**Caterer for the Winter Holiday Party:** The caterer that the COA had used for the last several years has gone out of business, making it necessary to find a new caterer. Two names were offered for consideration: Ms. Cathy Cavanaugh of Guido's Marketplace and Ms. Kate Baldwin, a Richmond resident who is a professional caterer. Ms. LeBeau will contact both of those people and request that they attend a meeting of the COA Committee to discuss possible plans for the Winter Holiday Party.

There being no further business before the Committee, a motion was made to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by unanimous consent.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 PM.