**Council on Aging of Williamsburg and Haydenville**

**Minutes of the Meeting of October 19, 2022**

**Present:** Pat Billingsley, Mary Bisbee, Daria D'Arienzo, Linda Gibbon, Gerry Mann, Dianne Martin, Maureen O'Brien; Staff, Carol Hendricks. Quorum was met.

The meeting was called to order at 12:18 p.m.

**Minutes:** Motion to accept Minutes of the Meeting of September 21, 2022. (Seconded).

**Director's Report:**

* Grants: Highland Valley grants have been awarded in the same amounts for the 2nd year that begins Oct. 1st. These grants help with outreach, carpooling, and transportation. PVTA’s grant continues to fund the medical rides.
* The Senior Center continues to be a very busy place with all activities having an increased level of communication: food programs, flu clinic, transportation, weekly classes, fuel assistance calls and outreach to seniors who might be interested in attending the congregate meals.
* Staff: Joy Moore is welcomed to the staff. Tryna has graciously worked the past 2 weeks to help with training. Sherry has also been working hours from home over the past month or so. We are sorry for her loss.
* Oct. 14th flu clinic was a successful collaboration with the Anne T Dunphy School and Walgreens (over 90+). Thanks to volunteers: Carol Hendricks, Tamar Smith, and Denise Banister.
* October 31st is our Monday Meals lunch with John Porcino, musician and storyteller, providing entertainment at 12:30 pm. All are welcome.
* Pen pal program. We need folks to sign up to exchange letters with 6th graders at Anne T. Dunphy. Let Director or Sherry know if you are interested. Thanks.
* The last Farmshare of the season was held on 10/18/2022.
* TRIAD will deliver sand to seniors who have signed up on November 5, 2022. Members of the Board requested sand, expanding the list.

**Old Business:** Discussion continued about providing a community screening of a recommended film *Gen Silent*, about difficulties surrounding aging and health care in the LGBTQ+ community, perhaps in collaboration with Meekins Library in the spring. Melissa should coordinate with Bev Bullock, Meekins Library Director. C.O.A. Board members will offer support, volunteer to publicize and provide movie snacks.

**New Business:** Discussion of possible afternoon social activities, including discussions and lectures (local historical themes, memoir writing, genealogy, gardening for example) raised the following issues and suggestions:

* Finding volunteers to offer rides for programs after lunch
* Collaborating with other town entities: school, Grange, library
* Reimbursement for presentation expenses
* Looking into grants for collaboration from the Cultural Council & Highland Valley Elder Services (HVES). A motion was made and seconded to recap the conversation with Director Melissa Wilson at our next meeting.

**The next C.O.A. Board meeting** **will be held on Weds. November16, 2022 at the Town Offices in Haydenville**.

**Motion to adjourn**. (Seconded). The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 p.m.