**Council on Aging of Williamsburg and Haydenville**

**Minutes of the Meeting of July 19,** **2023**

**Present:** Pat Billingsley**,** Mary Bisbee, Toni Boughton, Daria D'Arienzo, Maureen O'Brien. Staff: Carol Hendricks, Director Melissa Wilson. Quorum was met.

The meeting was called to order at 12:30 p.m. Daria D'Arienzo chaired the meeting.

**Minutes:** Motion to accept the Minutes of the Meeting of June 21,2023 as amended. (Seconded).

**Director's Report:**

* **Grants:**
* Highland Valley Elder Services (HVES) grant awards will be announced in October. Maureen O'Brien will serve as Williamsburg representative in the Fall.
* The Service Incentive Grant (SIG)will fundthe printed regional newsletter, *Living Well* for another year.
* **Programs & Events**
* The Ice Cream Social on Friday, July 7 was well attended and a great success. Carol Hendricks sent a thank you to the Village Green proprietors for their donation of ice cream and the fixings from the Senior Center. Maureen O'Brien will send thanks from the C.O.A. Board.
* A multigenerational event featuring therapy dogs is planned for Friday, August 11 at 10 a.m. followed by lunch. Joy requests taking and sharing photos of events. The event will be held inside if there is a concern about the weather. Several Board members volunteered to assist.
* September is the target for a Health Fair.
* There will be a flu clinic in October.

**Old Business:**

Discussion continued about providing a community screening of a recommended film, *Gen Silent*.

* Saturday October 21 at 2p.m. is the time and date of the movie presentation.
* Melissa Wilson is coordinating with Director Bev Bullock at Meekins Library.
* Suggestions for event publicity include:
* Placing a notice in the September and October *Living Well* regional newsletters
* Announcement at the Williamsburg health fair in September
* Posting on the Senior Center's *Facebook* page and the Town of Williamsburg Website
* Posting e- flyers distributed by the Senior Center to Board members
* Notice on the Town announcement boards.
* Theme of the event: providing information on care and to caretakers in the context of all seniors' wellness.
* Further questions: Will Jan Gibeau welcome the audience? What is the appropriate format for questions afterward? Should water be provided? Who will be in charge of technical issues before and on the date of the presentation?
* Recommendations: Have a point person work with the technical expert at Anne T. Dunphy School the week before the presentation.

Diversity:

* There is a need to work on diversity of C.O.A. Board membership within the current reality of the Town demographics, which is overwhelmingly white, with a population of elderly females.
* Suggestions to keep the Board strong include Board members, Director and Staff continuing to recruit additional members as needed for the Associate member base.

**New Business**: none

**Motion to adjourn**. (Seconded). The meeting was adjourned at 1:03 p.m.

**The next meeting** of the Williamsburg-Haydenville Council on Aging Boardwill beheld at **12:15 on Weds. August 16, 2023 at the Town Offices in Haydenville, MA.**