

TOWN OF SHEFFIELD
COUNCIL ON AGING
May 12, 2020
SHEFFIELD SENIOR CENTER
10:00 am

Board Members Present: Eileen Clarke, Chairperson
Nadine Hawver
Dorris Van Deusen
Michelle Harwood
Gillian Hettinger
Sherry Graybeal
John Gilligan

Absent: Pat Hardisty
David Smith Jr.

Others Present: Kathie Loring, Executive Director
Elaine Ireland, Assistant to Director
Rhonda LaBombard

Chairperson Clarke called the meeting to order at 10:15 am.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve the Minutes of January 14, 2020 by Michelle Harwood and seconded by John Gilligan. Approved unanimously.

PROGRAMING & EVENT UPDATE:

Executive Director Loring reported the center continued activities with Covid-19 Restrictions

- Kathie reported our transportation is running for medical, food pantries, pharmacy, shopping, and errands. The van is cleaned each day with disinfectant and the driver is wearing gloves and mask and passengers are wearing masks. No ill passengers allowed and only one or two on the van at one time to ensure social distancing.
- SBETC shut down in late February and we have been able to help the surrounding towns with rides. We are receiving donations, typically higher than the suggested donation and we are getting positive feedback of appreciation about our services offered.
- We are delivering our Community Meals as a Grab-and-go to 9-10 seniors every Wednesday and Friday and are continuing our regular Meals-on-wheels weekdays.
- Each day we are checking in with folks and providing information and resources to those in need.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- There is a bid in with EOEa – USDA for ten bags of 10-15 lbs. of food four times May – December.
- We have been working with the Christ Trinity Church and delivering meals prepared by the John Andrews Restaurant on Saturday afternoons to 80-85 people. These are delivered by our van driver and volunteers.
- There is a We Read Stories program resulting from a collaboration between Bard College, Fairview Hospital and the Medical Reserve Corps to read stories and check in with isolated and lonely seniors once a week during Covid19.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR ITEMS:

- We are looking into what the “new normal” may look like for opening in the future. We have to consider the regulation from the CDC and COA

CHAIRPERSON ITEMS: No new items. Eileen expressed thanks to Kathie and Elaine for all the help at the Senior Center. She expressed concern about how we may handle Community Meals when we open again.

FRIENDS ITEMS Michelle mentioned potential upcoming events pending our opening: There is another Murder Mystery scheduled for Aug 7th 2020 for Dessert only...Murder by Chocolate \$5, Ice Cream Social in August, Sheffield Fair in September, and Thanksgiving Dinner in November. Michelle also mentioned she was looking for purple, pink, and white worsted yarn.

MEMBER ITEMS John Gilligan asked to be posted on how the monthly Community Meal meeting may be addressed. Dorris said she is proud of how Sheffield has stepped in to help with transportation for the community in this difficult time. She inquired if there were enough birthday cards. Gillian gave her perspective about some of the Seniors she believes may be falling through the cracks in this time. She voiced concern about the feelings of isolation amongst those at home without contact. Some ideas she shared were a video class and a virtual movie night,

Nadine moved to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 am, seconded by Dorris. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Elaine Ireland
Assistant to the Director

Documents Reviewed:
Minutes