MINUTES OF COUNCIL ON AGING MEETING, APRIL 9, 2025

Present: Dianne Parrington, Donna Butzke, Kelle Quist, BJ Roche

Meeting called to order at 3:08

Minutes of March meeting approved

**Discussion of current activities:** Foot clinics and walking group going well. Bowling is ongoing, walking group will pick up when weather is better

**Coffee Hours:** Henry Dandeneau is scheduled to speak about loons this month April 17 coffee hour.

May 15: BJ will contact Deirdre Gleason to talk about estate planning and vital documents. This would be a reschedule of our cancelled February event.

For June 19, we will try to do something outside, possibly croquet, bocci ball or cornhole game.

Kelle and Donna will bake for this Thursday coffee hour.

**Lifepath Grant:** The money has come through and Brielle is in the process of buying the wheelchair. She has also programmed apps into the television to use for exercise. We need to develop some programming to use the television. BJ suggested showing the zoom broadcast of Kate Peppard’s yoga class, but the consensus seems to be that people have been doing it at home so much that they would not come out to do it in the fitness center.

Road Scholar offers some online travel lectures, BJ will look into other programs that we might host during the week.

**Other activities:** Kelle suggested that we start a card club, bridge or cribbage. It was decided that we should try to find someone who would teach cards .

**Summer Social:** This year we’ll ask people to bring cakes as part of a Cake Picnic that different cities are doing. Everyone brings a cake, and we all share cakes. Kelly Phillips has been booked to provide barbeque, and Donna told her to hold 30 senior meals for under $15. We will do vouchers like we did last year. She’ll also provide a potato bar and serve to others for a price.

There are also plans to try to get an ice cream truck.

The COA will provide soft drinks and chips, and we’ll organize the cake picnic. So need to get a few volunteers to help with this on the day of the event, July 13.

Events on that day will include: Music by Matt York, The Highwaymen, a pickleball tournament, the Historical Society will have a table with artifacts, foraging on park trails. A garden tour will be held the day before, Saturday.

**Summer cookouts:** will go on in July and August. We’ll provide chips and soft drinks.

**Tanglewood:** We have 6 people so far.

Meeting adjourned at 4:55

**NOTE:** after our adjournment, Chief Hytinen and Tamara Sloan, Hilltown Response Team clinician came into the room to discuss needs of seniors in town. Though we had adjourned, we did engage in a discussion with them.

Among other things, Sloan noted the services of the Shelburne Falls Senior Center, including a Memory Café and caregivers support group, both of which are open to other towns. (BJ has since contacted them and we will put a notice in the Goal Post for next month.)

The chief also noted the need for a van in town, to transport seniors, as well as school students, highway employees, etc. He said the cost could be spread among the school, highway, Council on Aging. BJ said she would look into grants for something like this, which he estimated at $25,000.