

Lymes' Senior Center Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting date:

Monday, January 17, 2023

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jane Folland, Kathy Lockwood, Joan Bonvicin, Diana Seckla, Jeri Baker, Jeremy Crisp, Stephanie Lyon-Gould, David Griswold, Jacqueline Roberts Sue Campbell, Peter Lucchese, Christina Gotowka

MEMBERS ABSENT: Doris Hungerford

I. CALL TO ORDER: Jeri Baker called the meeting to order at 1:00pm

II. GUESTS: Karen Geisler, Fred Verillo

III. MINUTES OF DECEMBER 2022 MEETING Correction: Stephanie Lyon-Gould requested the following line be deleted from the December minutes: "Reynolds Subaru is also donating \$250 to the Center". Motion to accept the minutes with correction put forth by Joan Bonvicin, seconded by Christina Gotowka. All in favor. Motion carried.

IV. TREASURER'S REPORT: Jane Folland presented the Treasurer's report. There were a number of donations honoring Doris Rand, who had requested donations to the center in lieu of gifts for her 90th birthday.

V. COMMUNICATIONS: None

VI. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Director's Notes: Stephanie Lyon-Gould announced the membership numbers for November (M- 1092, A- 2937) and December (M- 1061, A- 2572). January is down, as 132 Friends members dropped off the roll at year's end. Will send an email to remind them to rejoin. There were 8 new in-town members, and 5 new out-of-town members. There were a total of 29524 visits to the Center in 2022.

Reynolds Subaru donated \$2000 to the Seniors in Need program.

Upcoming programs:

Naxolone Training with Ledge Light Health District- March 7 at 1pm. This program is free and open to all in the community, not just seniors.

The Gray School of Irish Dance- March 17. The cost for this performance is now \$300, which is over the \$250 limit. A brief discussion as to whether the limit should be raised due to inflation. Will be taken up under New Business.

Indoor Cornhole- Third Tuesday of the month, starting February 21 at 12.45pm.

Veterans Coffee Hour- Second Wednesday of the month, starting February 15, 9.15-10.45am. The VFW will sponsor the coffee and refreshments, per Richard Mason. *Tai Ji Quan* (can be done in a chair or standing) with Kate Perez, Tuesdays at 8.45am starting in March. \$5 fee.

Just Dance to the '50s and '60s- Thursdays at 10.45am, starting this week.

Summer Concerts: The cost of the Summer Concerts last year was \$5600, which was considerably defrayed by sponsorships. Stephanie Lyon-Gould suggested budgeting “up to \$6000” for this year’s concert series due to inflation. Jeri Baker stated that \$6500 might be more appropriate. Motion to approve \$6500 for the 2023 Summer Outdoor Concerts was made by Joan Bonvicin and seconded by Christina Gotowka. All in favor. Motion carried.

Artists’ Wall: Framed art and photography will be hung on the Artists’ Wall behind the round tables in the front room. Committee will set up and take down.

The first annual Lions’ Club Night of Giving will take place at Town Hall on January 26, at 6pm. Stephanie Lyon-Gould will speak briefly about the Senior Center, and Caitlin Perkins will also attend. All are welcome.

The *Lyme-Old Lyme Neighbors* magazine January issue featured the Lymes’ Senior Center. Stephanie will reach out to Cameron Cooke and ask her to include the Senior Center video link in the next issue.

Facilities Report: Stephanie Lyon-Gould thanked Fred Verillo who came in and spent a day cleaning, decluttering and reorganizing various spaces in the Center.

VII. OLD BUSINESS:

ARPA Grant Update: Jeri Baker, Kathy Lockwood. The \$1700. ARPA grant has been deposited. Will be used for the birthday card program. Requires periodic reporting as to the progress of the grant. Need to estimate how many cards went out last year. Postmaster needs a week’s notice to order the birthday stamps. Stephanie will send receipt to Nicole and it will be coded to the ARPA account. Period of three years to implement the grant.

Laptop Update: Stephanie Lyon-Gould. Tom Myers at Town Hall is currently assessing four of the Center’s five computers. The Center currently has one working laptop. Jane Folland asked if there are future programs that will require the use of a laptop. Stephanie said laptops will be needed for zoom meetings and also a movie program coming up. Jeri Baker said technology upgrades will be included in the upcoming renovation. For now we’ll see how the assessment/repair goes. If it doesn’t work, will ask for a new laptop(s) in future.

Other Old Business: David Griswold. The National Commander of the VFW visited the Old Lyme Post, and was very impressed with the Post’s relationship with the Senior Center. It was an honor to be selected out of 85 Posts. Stephanie asked David to send a photo of the visit to post on Facebook.

Alan Sheiness is busy putting together a new Board of Directors for the Friends. He has filled 3 of 4 positions. The yet-unfilled position is for the member who will manage the yearly fundraising effort. Jeri will follow up, and asked if anyone knows a good candidate for this position to please let her know.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

Building Committee Update: Jeri Baker thanked the VFW for the possibility of obtaining hexagonal accessible tables. This will be incorporated into the plan. The project is on-track so far. Very impressed by town boards and commissions' willingness to move expeditiously. Nearing the end of the schematic design phase (mechanical systems). The next phase will be design development. At each phase there is a cost estimate. Jeri Baker will meet with town officials and the building committee to introduce the latest cost estimate. Inflation has been a factor. Will mitigate costs as much as possible, also meeting with State officials Marx, Needleman and Carney to ask for help with bonding and any grants that may be available. Federal level STEAP grants are also possible, and each town can apply for a grant, if Governor Lamont approves another round. The building committee meets via Zoom every second Monday. Agendas & minutes are posted on the town website. Re: solar panels: asked Greenbank (state bank that helps municipalities install solar) and will also ask some local solar providers for an estimate. Getting estimates for hazmat survey from two companies. Asked by the town to justify the potential 4 million dollar cost. Need to know how the space is used, and how it is used over time: number of programs, plus number of people, etc. The architectural standard is that during the week, 70% of the space must be filled. Will work with Stephanie Lyon-Gould to quantify program data and present to Board of Finance.

Request for Program Data:

Program Suggestions: Peter Lucchese suggested a carpentry workshop. Jeri Baker said she was working on getting Alan Sheiness to do a bird box. Peter Crisp suggested a class on how to use the AED. Program suggestions are always welcome.

Other New Business: Proposal to raise the limit for program funding from \$250. Jeremy Crisp motioned to raise the limit for program funding from \$250 to \$350. Seconded by Peter Lucchese. All in favor. Motion carried.

The VFW would like to donate two accessible picnic tables to the Center.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT: Fred Verillo: Thanked the board, stated that the guidelines for the Art Wall are simple. All members are encouraged to submit their artwork regardless of level of expertise. Will send out the guidelines tomorrow.

End of the year gift expenditure: \$1050.00

X. ADJOURNMENT:

Jacqueline Roberts motioned to adjourn at 2.17 pm, seconded by Joan Bonvicin. All in favor. Motion Carried. Meeting adjourned.

Next Regular Meeting March 20, 2023

Respectfully submitted,
Michaelle Pearson

