

**Members in attendance:** Damon Jespersen, John Ferrara, Gerry DiMaio, Jeanine Cunningham, Susan Grillo (Quorum present). **Absent**: Joyce Machiros, Chris Howe, Josephine antico, Chuck Bear.

**Other attendees:** Cindy Currier

Motion to open the meeting made by Damon Jespersen, seconded by John Ferrara.

Unanimous approval.

**Audience:**  None

**Minutes:**

The December 18, 2023 meeting was cancelled due to inclement weather so no minutes for December.

Motion to postpone approval of Minutes for Nov 27, 2023 meeting until next meeting (February 26) because some members did not receive the minutes or review them yet. Motion made by Damon Jespersen; seconded by Jeanine Cunningham and John Ferrara. Unanimous approval.

Cindy stated that some members with Comcast email addresses did not receive the minutes so we need to be sure that doesn’t happen again. Please check your junk mail folders in case Comcast routes COA correspondence there.

**Chairperson’s Report**

Review of Council Members’ Participation in COA events:most members participated in various activities/events recently. All are encouraged to participate. Jeanine reported that she attended the Senior Tea at Triton and it was a fabulous event so she encouraged all to attend next year.

Damon said there was no report regarding the COA Ad Hoc Committee for Site Selection yet as the group just recently met to get acquainted.

New COA Van tour/ride – 1/22 immediately following the meeting. Damon, Gerry, Jeanine, Susan and Cindy went on the tour today. All were very impressed.

**Director’s Report:**

* Upcoming programs:
  + Seen Your Feet – Barbara Ullman is a Registered Nurse and licensed medical pedicurist. Starting a monthly medical pedicure service in January. Details in the newsletter. First clinics are January 31st and February 28th from 10am-12pm. Reservations are required. Cost is $30 paid directly to Barbara via cash or check only
  + Gordon College Center for Balance: Wednesday, March 20th at 10am
  + Animal World Experience: Thursday, February 22nd at 1pm (school vacation week!)
  + Ping Pong: Tuesdays & Thursdays 9a-1p Field House
  + Cheetahs with Paula Wright: Wednesday, February 21st at 1pm
  + Game Nights Tuesday, February 13th and Tuesday, March 26th from 4-6pm. Dinner and dessert will be served
  + St. Patrick’s Day corned beef and cabbage luncheon at PITA Hall: Tuesday, March 12th. Doors open at noon; dinner served at 12:30pm
  + Watercolor Class with Bill Duke: Tuesday, February 20th and Tuesday, March 19th 10a-1p. $20 cash paid directly to Bill
  + Exploring Creativity in Watercolor with Peggy Poppe: Four-week class February 15th and 22nd and March 7th and 14th at 9:30am. Cost: $48 paid directly to Peggy for all four classes
  + Traveling Chef: Thursday, February 29th (Asian bowl); Thursday, March 21st (breakfast for lunch)
  + AARP Tax Aide: Monday, March 18th BY APPOINTMENT ONLY. Limited spots available. Call today!
* Newsletter sent to the printer; looking for volunteers to help us stuff and fold this week; insert from NPD/NFD
* Still in need of Snow Angels. Triton Regional Middle and High School usually provides volunteers to seniors in need. They only had four volunteers come forward this year. We have a long list of seniors in need of some help with shoveling walkways, stairs, pathway to heating source (oil tank, firewood pile, etc.), and clearing snow from the car. NOT clearing driveways. If you can help, please call Sarah Houghton at Triton at 978-518-4255 or call us at the Council on Aging to be matched with a senior. If you have an older neighbor…look out for them and offer to help!
* Office closed: Monday 2/19 (Presidents Day)
* SHINE counselor is available year-round to talk about options. Call us to connect with Max!
* Next Friends of the Newbury Council on Aging meeting: Tuesday, 1/23 @ 6pm. Want to join? Come to a meeting to learn more!
* Always in need of NEET volunteers!

**New Business:**

The COA “Did You Know” flyer was approved by the Select Board and included in recent tax bill to all residents. Cindy said no comments/inquiries were received yet.

Motion to establish Feb 26, 2024 as the next meeting made by Damon Jespersen; seconded by Gerry DiMaio and John Ferrara. Unanimous approval.

Motion to adjourn made by Damon Jespersen, seconded by Gerry DiMaio and Susan Grillo. Unanimous approval. Members headed to the van for a tour/ride.