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By Jim Alexander - Asst. Town Clerk at 9:28 am, Jan 10, 2024

MAYNARD COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD
Minutes
January 4, 2024

In attendance:

Council on Aging Board members: Paul Guthrie, Mary Mitzcavitch, and Mary Ann Shields as well as Council on Aging Director, Amy Loveless.

Select Board liaison: Chris DiSilva, Chair of the Maynard Select Board.

Appointed members of the Senior Center Committee: Mary Ann Bassett, Jerry Culbert, Jack MacKeen, Josh Morse, Deb Roustell and Dan Shields.

Guests: Peg Brown (from the Senior Center Focus Group), Armand Diarbekirian, Liz Drury (from the Friends of Maynard Seniors), Diane Gauthier (from the Senior Center Focus Group) and Linda Holt (Finance Committee liaison to the Council on Aging).

Mary Ann Shields called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Council on Aging Board approved the minutes of the December 18, 2023 meeting.

Mary Ann Shields welcomed everyone and turned the facilitation of the agenda over to Chris DiSilva.

Chris DiSilva reported that the Select Board appointed Mary Ann Bassett, Jerry Culbert, Amy Loveless, Jack MacKeen, Josh Morse, Deb Roustell and Dan Shields to the Senior Center Committee on January 2, 2024. All will have to be sworn in except for Amy Loveless.

Mary Ann Shields introduced Paul Guthrie and Mary Mitzcavitch as members of the Senior Center Committee pending the COA Board vote on Tuesday, January 9, at the COA Board's regular meeting. Lindsay McConchie, from the Capital Planning Committee, has been nominated as a liaison to the Senior Center Committee. Linda Holt is waiting for the Finance Committee meeting on January 8 to determine if she will become the liaison to the Senior Center Committee.

Chris noted that the Town's legal counsel has determined that liaisons do not need to be sworn in. Representatives of the Council on Aging Board do not need to be sworn in as well. This is due to having already been sworn in for their current town appointments. They will all have to be appointed by the Select Board and it is anticipated that this will occur the January 16 Select Board meeting.

Chris asked if the Friends of Maynard Seniors had determined who their second representative would be. Deb Roustell announced that Liz Drury had accepted the opportunity to serve.

Chris updated the group that the Select Board had no objection to Mary Ann Bassett and Amy Loveless becoming voting members though they are not residents because they have held longstanding positions within the town of Maynard. Liaisons are the only non-voting members on the Senior Center Committee. As well, it will be left to the Senior Center Committee to determine if they feel more members should be added.

Chris opened the floor for discussion. He reported that Jack MacKeen had sent him an email with points for discussion and as he had not had an opportunity to read it, asked Jack to summarize the content for the group. Jack stated that the Select Board has asked during their meeting on January 2 whether they (the Select Board) should be providing more structure for the committee beyond the charge. Jack had said to the Select Board that perhaps the Senior Center Committee should meet first to discuss and determine initial deliverables that would then be shared with the Select Board. Jack will forward his document with points for discussion to members of the Senior Center Committee before their next meeting.

Josh Morse suggested that the members and guests in attendance introduce themselves and provide background information. Each attendee shared personal and professional background information as well as their interest in participating on the committee. All were eager to find solutions to the need for a more suitable space for Maynard's seniors. Attendees expressed appreciation to Chris DiSilva for prioritizing the need as well as his efforts in forming the Senior Center Committee. Chris acknowledged that Deb Roussell, Amy Loveless and Jack MacKeen helped inform his decision to put forth the formation of an appointed committee.

The members decided that the next meeting of the Senior Center Committee would be held on Thursday, January 18 at 7:00 p.m. via Zoom. All members and liaisons should be appointed and sworn in if necessary, before this meeting.

Chris asked Amy Loveless to forward him the contact information for all members for distribution. Members were in agreement that it was acceptable to share their personal email addresses.

Chris asked that agenda items for the January 18 meeting be forwarded to him. Chris will facilitate the meeting and set up the Zoom link.

The Council on Aging Board adjourned the meeting at 7:52 p.m.