

Ludlow Council on Aging
Board Meeting
Senior Center
228 State Street
Town of Ludlow
Wednesday, January 18, 2023
10:30 p.m.

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- I. Roll Call** - The meeting was called to order by Vice Chairperson J. Grimaldi.

Present: J. Zepke, D. Peacey (via phone), J. Grimaldi, K. Martin, R. Forti, F. Krzanik, Johnson, F. Barroso, K. Ribeiro, Kathy Green, guest, Chairperson of the Friends.

Absent: J. DaCruz, H. Grabowski

II. Secretary's Report

- a. Minutes from the November 16, 2022 (no Dec. meeting) meeting minutes were reviewed and approved with the following changes: Under section IV c, Thursday evening should be changed to Tuesday evening. The item numbers in that section must be re-alphabetized. D. Peacey will make the changes before submitting to the town. M/S: J. Grimaldi/R. Forti. All in favor.

III. Treasurers Report

- a. J. Zepke reported that halfway into the current fiscal year, the budget is on target (44% of salary budget and 46% of general expenses); she is working on the FY '24 budget. She has completed level I but has not yet received instructions for level II.
- b. The "Additional Funding Carryover" of \$50,000 listed under "Total Grant Budget" will be moved to a different line item. J. Zepke noted this additional money earmarked for a new van. M/S: J. Grimaldi/R. Forti. All in favor.

IV. Director's Report

- a. Employee Classification Follow Up: The position re-classifications were accepted and will be part of the level II budget that goes into effect in the next fiscal year beginning on July 1. These changes will be included in the town budget for Town Meeting approval. J. Zepke stated that the Board of Selectmen also advocated that the salary of the Directors' position be increased from a level 3 to a level 5. This change went into effect on January 1, 2023.
- b. Evening Hours: The Center is being used by the town to offer Zumba classes for town employees for 4 weeks on Thursday evenings.

- c. Status of New Senior Center Staff: The Activities Assistant, Tammy Lasalle, will start on Monday, Jan. 23. She is a retired nurse with a background in geriatrics. A per diem van driver, Mike Lebel, is starting in February to provide early evening transportation to late medical appointments (3:30 p.m.) for grocery shopping and to and from the Center.
- d. Grants: Still waiting to hear about van. The Behavioral Health grant will be funding a 5 hour per week social worker position; the position has yet to be filled. The services will be geared toward people who are "falling through the cracks" and will help recognize mental health issues early on so that interventions can be initiated.

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V. Chairman's Report:

- a. Code of Conduct Update: Revisions have been completed and J. Zepke will finalize.
- b. Board Vacancies: There will be three vacancies on the Council (alternate member, vacancy anticipated in April when J. Grimaldi retires and one which occurred with recent death of council member Fred Lafayette. J. Zepke will post this in the Senior Center newsletter to elicit interest. D. Peacey has notified the town hall of the vacancies however will provide a memo to the Board of Selectmen as well. Vacant seats are listed in the Ludlow Register. K. Martin offered to send a press release to the Republican newspaper Ludlow section.

VI. Old/New Business:

- a. Board: Per the By-laws, members will elect new officers from the membership at the April meeting.
- b. F. Lafayette's significant efforts to help build the new Center, along with his commitment to the town's older adult population over many years, were noted. Donations in his memory may be made to Friends of the Senior Center.

VII. Adjournment: 5:30 p.m. M/S: D. Johnson/J. Grimaldi. All in favor.

The next Board Meeting will be at 4:30 p.m. on Wed., February 15, 2023.

Respectfully submitted

K. Martin, Secretary COA