

**Council on Aging
Board Meeting Minutes March 6, 2024**

Members Present: Mary Anne Easley, Robert Kucharavy, Erin Lynch, Arlene O'Reilly, and Linda Williams.

Staff Present: Jerico Mele. Laura Stewart

Guest Speaker: None

Meeting called to order 1:30 pm, hybrid, in-person and remotely online.

Approval of Agenda: Bob moved to accept; Linda seconded. All approved.

Review of the Minutes:

January minutes were approved, there was no meeting in February.

1. Mary Anne:

- Meeting called to order at 3:05 pm
- Roll call
- Approval of agenda – all approved

2. Reviewed Senior of the Year Protocols and draft changes of nomination forms.

Linda wants to have more direct call out for people who show up of services for our community – furthers the relationships and had improved some aspects of our community.

Arlene, Erin and Linda made suggestions for edits and all voted to approve.

Mary Anne and Laura will prepare the press release to begin the process tomorrow.

Linda: Can members of NCEA be nominated? Discussions resulted in “yes” just no repeats.

3. Reviewed Senior Expo details and discussed dates of when to make announcements.

Reviewed sub-committee members, Arlene, Linda and Erin all volunteered to be on the Elder Expo Sub-Committee. Meetings will start in April.

4. ROBERT: NHA on the Road, reviewed details of speakers and other nonprofit collaborations in March and April.

1. On the Road Overseas program launched this month.

2. Elder Services – Mary Anne and Robert went to breakfast in February in Hyannis. It was well attended including elected officials.

1. Julian Sears & Dillan Fernandez

2. Addressed problems for seniors including affordable housing. Further discussion.

5. JERICO:

1. CDC recommended that Seniors have a 2nd vaccine for COVID.

- Town is working on bringing more opportunity to bring vaccines to the island.
- Its unlikely we will have a sustained program for vaccines, recommendations are to head off island to CVS to obtain vaccines.

2. Human services audit: Reviewing with consultants to focus on grants and I was added to strategic planning group focused on projects for a healthy and vibrant community.

Further discussions on how Jerico's role is evolving since he has been focused mostly on COVID related issues over the past few years, staffing in his department, etc.

6. LAURA:

1. Open to questions on her report. All good.
 - Comments are that the Saltmarsh has been very busy over the past few months
 - Its unlikely we will have a sustained program for vaccines, recommendations are to head off island to CVS to obtain vaccines.

7. TRAVEL GRANT:

1. Update – 11 people have used it so far. NCEA has been sending out check reimbursements for travel related to health needs on and off island.
2. \$350 per individual has been established so we can spread it out over as many people as possible.
3. Mary Ann is connecting to other communities and learning a great deal about senior transportation. Further discussions. Reviewed Gogograndparents.com on the shared screen, Jerico will review it further.

8) Questions or comments:

All adjourned.