

STOCKBRIDGE Council on Aging BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MINUTES
Friday February 23, 2024 10:00A.M.

1. Members Present: Christina McCarthy, Chairperson; Andrea Lindsay (arrived late by Zoom 10:02 AM), Ron Muir, Diane Sheridan; Cathy Buffoni. **Absent** Nancy O'Brien. Polly Mann **Others Present: None**

The Chairwoman called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.

2. Minutes: Approval of the Minutes from meeting on February 14, 2024. Minutes tabled for next meeting.

3. New Business

a. Moving Forward. Christina McCarthy, Chairwoman reads the letters of resignation submitted to the Selectboard by Polly Mann. Comments that post CV-19 and for three (3) years the Board has done a great job of implementing new events that were well attended. Reviews all current activities and suggests that with the Boards help that they continue everything except the pancake breakfast. Tuesday lunch especially as it has 15 attending. Diane S, Cathy B agree. Ron M. not sure what he would do. Cathy B. states that she attended many Wednesday luncheons and 20 or more attended. It is worthwhile to keep going. Chris M. suggests that the Board run things themselves. All agree. Both Cathy B. and Ron M. feel that a Tri-Town COA will not work. Ron saying that it has been hard enough to get people to come to Stockbridge Town Hall, never mind a location in another Town. Cathy B. offers that Board can try to keep going for the next six months. Andrea L. Agrees with Cathy and that at the end of the six months we reassess how it has worked. Hold off on hiring. Diane S. feels it isn't the job of the Board and that this should not be an indefinite thing, Chris M agrees. Chris asks if everyone is staying on the Board. All will remain to see how things will develop. Someone asks if we have a sense of what the Select Board thinks on the matter. Chris M reports that we do not know how the Select Board feels. Town Admin feels the Town has many groups established outside the Sr. Center that do not utilize the COA and that there is not a need for a COA (Director). C. Buffoni feels the point is valid, but it is not time to give up yet. Winter can be challenging to draw people out. Ron M. feels that the Memorial Day Parade may be in jeopardy because of lack of interest. Discussion moves on to newsletters and mailings. The last two newsletters had a lot of information, almost too much information. It was suggested by Town to send out two per year. Board feels that may not be enough. If the COA does not continue what happens to Bingo? Bingo is a separate entity and will continue. Wednesday luncheons will continue quarterly and there is grant money for the speakers.

4. Old Business – N/A

5. Open Forum -N/A

6. Next Meeting; Next meeting will be Wednesday March 13th at 10:00 am.

Adjournment; A motion was made to adjourn @ 10:38 AM by Cathy Buffoni and it was seconded by Diane Sheridan. All in favor 5 - 0

Respectfully submitted,

Andrea Lindsay

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L.C.