

BERKLEY COUNCIL ON AGING
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 4, 2023

Board Present: Margaret Moroff, Arlene Medeiros, Cathy Charette, Kathee Strozyk, and Carol Buote

I. Call to Order

Margaret Moroff called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

II. Margaret Moroff announced that the meeting is not being videotaped. The cable commission is looking for camera operators

III. Acceptance of Prior Minutes

1. The board voted unanimously to accept the meeting minutes from May 2, 2023.

IV. FY 2023 Budget Update – Arlene Medeiros provided the budget update as of May 02, 2023

1. **Town Budget Balance: Salary Account = \$19,498.26 Other Expenses = \$2,599.74**
2. **Formula Grant: \$15,845.30 Accounting office is working to close out FY22 Account and provide a verified balance.**
3. **Earmark Grant: \$3,222.70 This has to be spent by June 30, 2023.**
4. **Program Donations Balance: \$5996.80**
5. **General Donations Balance: \$4,400.36**

V. Events -

1. Margaret Moroff discussed ceramics and painting classes. The center will need to charge \$10 to Berkley residents and \$20 to nonresidents to continue these programs. Painting will be held at 3:00 on May 18th. This is a later time for our programing in hope that it will bring new people into the center.
2. **Lunch on the Farm** – Margaret Moroff discussed the cost of Lunch at Chamberlain Farm. The cost is \$30 per person and perhaps that amount of money could be better spent. The board discussed contacting other venues for a dinner. The Jocky Club, The American Legion, Segregansett Country Club, Lebaron Country Club, and The Chateau were discussed as possible venues. Krista Celia suggested the event take place in August in order to get the information into the newsletter. Margaret Moroff said if it was outside than August would be too hot and that September would be better. Nancy Thompson asked if the event would be limited to Berkley residents and Margaret Moroff said the decision would be made when we have more information. Entertainment was discussed and Nancy Thompson said that it is hard to hear each other when there is entertainment.
3. **Midsummers Night Dream with Alberto**- Arlene Medeiros discussed Alberto's theater group using the center to put on a public performance of Midsummers Night Dream. Alberto's group would collect the money and the center would be used as a venue. Kathee Strozyk motioned to allow the theater group to use the center, Carol Buote seconded the motion and the board voted in favor.
4. **Manicures** – Krista Celia discussed requests for manicures. The board discussed the fee for manicures. Krista Celia suggested having clients pay the manicurist directly. Kathee Strozyk suggested the senior center be used as a venue only. Margaret Moroff said that

the manicures could not be free. Krista Celia said she would discuss the manicures with Kerrie-Ann and find out her availability and cost.

5. **Group Health Talks from MCR Chiropractic** – Krista Celia discussed a request to have a free educational series on topics such as eliminating back pain, stopping headaches, and stress management. A doctor from the Fall River practice would come into the center for the event. Margaret Moroff expressed concern that it would turn into a service selling event. Margaret said she would only be interested if it was made completely clear that there would be no selling of any kind. Kathee Strozyk suggested asking MCR for references from other senior centers. Margaret Moroff asked Krista Celia to get more information.
6. **Hip Hop** – Arlene Mederios talked about how this class has taken place for the past two years and this would be the third year. The teacher is looking for the COA to sign a Community Agreement to include with their grant application. The COA would not be responsible for the cost it would be part of a grant. Carol Buote clarified that it is just the venue that the R&B class needs. Kathee Strozyk asked if the agreement in any way binds the COA to this program. The board agreed it would not. Carol Buote motioned to fill out the Community Partnership Agreement to provide venue if they get the grant. Kathee Strozyk seconded the motion and the board voted in favor. Arlene Mederios abstained because she is a member of the cultural council.
7. **Chair Yoga** – Nancy Thompson said that this class is very well attended. Krista Celia discussed the need for a substitute for June 12th. A discussion was had about the need for a CORI check. Krista Celia said she would get the CORI completed. Margaret Moroff asked how the substitute would be paid. Arlene Mederios said there were tax implications for the instructor if the council paid her and had her pay the substitute. Kathee Strozyk said there is a way for that to be declared on taxes. Krista Celia said she would find out how the yoga instructor would prefer the payment occur.
8. **Proposed New Events** –
 - a. Margaret Moroff suggested a plant sharing day. She also suggested reaching out to Ashleys Greenhouse to see if the seniors could use their greenhouse for a garden group.
 - b. Margaret Moroff discussed events to bring more men into the center. Bowling and hatchet throwing were discussed. Margaret Moroff talked about Kerrie Ann Auclair having a class for seniors about gun safety. Krista Celia said she would ask Kerrie Ann Auclair to provide a program description. Margaret Moroff and Donna Benoit discussed the difficulty a person has dealing with guns with a family member dies.
 - c. Elisabeth Monkowski suggested card games. Margaret Moroff said game night would not be limited to seniors. Carol Buote said the library has tried game nights for kids and they have not been popular. Krista Celia suggested the American Legion for game night so the event could include a bar.
 - d. Elisabeth Monkowski suggested an event at a gun club. The board discussed if a membership was required for that.

VI. Continuation of Cleaning of the COA – Arlene Mederios discussed continuing with the extra cleaning of the COA. It costs \$10 to clean the bathroom and \$20 to clean the room. Krista Celia asked about why the COA is picking up the cost to clean the bathroom in the town building. Carol Buote explained that departments do pick up extra costs for things when it is something a group would like. Cathy Charette motioned to continue with the extra cleaning and Carol Buote seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously in favor.

- VII. Handicap Signs** - Krista Celia brought before the board a request from the Happy Hearts group for additional handicap signs. Margaret Moroff talked about how the center has more signs now and the center had requested 4 signs and was already turned down. Elisabeth Monkowski asked about painting the lines in the parking lot. Carol Buote said the library is using volunteers. Margert Moroff suggested asking the Friends of the COA for funds to have the lines painted.
- VIII. Friends of the COA Report:**
1. Elisabeth Monkowski discussed a fishing trip the group is considering. She asked Arlene Mederios if the information can be posted on the cable station. Arlene asked to have the information sent to her.
 2. There is \$18,107.89 in the account and some members are concerned that the amount is getting high. Elisabeth Monkowski asked how the board would like to spend the money. Carole Buote suggested painting the lines in the parking lot. Margaret Moroff suggested lunches and maybe activities. Elisabeth Monkowski said the Friends discussed reinstating the monthly lunches.
- IX. Correspondence** – Krista Celia said there have been 3 Public Records Requests recently. One from Wendy Cochrane for emails, one from Nancy Thomson for information, and one from Joan Blake for minutes and by-laws. Margaret Moroff said these requests take time and they are being billed accordingly. Krista Celia said she has been charging her time conservatively for public records but if we keep getting them than the time spent will be more thoroughly reflected. Krista Celia stated she was still looking for an annotative list which should have been on file with the by-laws. No one in the meeting knew where that list could be located.
- X. The next meeting will be June 1, 2023 in the senior center at 9:00 a.m.**
- XI.** Arlene Mederios motioned to adjourn at 10:18 a.m. and Kathee Strozyk seconded to the motion. All voted in favor.