

BERKLEY COUNCIL ON AGING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
August 3, 2023

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

- I. Margaret Moroff called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m. Margaret stated the meeting is now videotaped. Please wait to the end of articles to ask questions.
- II. Minutes Accepted for the July 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- III. Krista Celia presented the budget report.
  1. Town Budget Balance: 23,970
  2. Formula Grant: 14, 258.86
  3. Program Donations: 7046.80
  4. General Donations: 4498.36
- IV. Events –
  1. Ceramics - Margaret Moroff announced the upcoming ceramics class scheduled for August 30<sup>th</sup>. Krista Celia discussed how the theme was picked by the class. Margaret Moroff talked about how the glazing works.
  2. Painting with Amy - Margaret Moroff discussed upcoming mini house workshop for Thursday August 24.
  3. Blood Pressure Clinic – Margaret Moroff stated that the blood pressure clinic will be 8/23. She said that Barbara Rounds will be in and she volunteers her time. Anyone can come in but she does have a set group who always come in.
  4. Ward 5 - Margaret Moroff spoke about the upcoming Ward 5 event. It will be free for Berkley residents and \$20 for nonresidents. Working friends will also be free. Krista Celia asked about entertainment. Margaret Moroff said her feeling was that people wanted to come and socialize. She suggested background oldies music. Nancy Thompson said that she agreed with Margaret. Elisabeth Monkowski said the event was brought up with the Friends and they agreed to pay for the Berkley residents and working Friends. Margaret asked if anyone questioned the fee and Krista Celia responded no. Nancy Thompson wanted to make sure that gratuity is included in the bill.
  5. Manicures and Refuse to be a Victim – Krista Celia said date is up in the air due to the injury to the instructor. Krista said maybe October.
  6. Tech talks with Kevin -Margaret Moroff said it is scheduled for 8-22-23. Krista Celia said we are hoping to schedule 2 additional workshops.
  7. Holiday Lunch – Krista Celia asked which school and what time the lunch is at. Margaret Moroff said lunch at 12 doors open at 11 and we set up around 9 at the middle school. The student council helps. We have raffles and a 50/50 and have a turkey lunch. Margaret Moroff asked how everyone felt about entertainment. Elisabeth Monkowski said that the music interfered with the raffles last year. Margaret said she thinks people want to talk. Nancy Thompson said it may be too late to set up entertainment. Krista Celia said maybe have the school kids sing only 2 songs. Kathee Strozyk. said people want to socialize and it allows people to get to know each other.
  8. Margaret said she would like to find a new exciting program. She said she would like to bring in something different. She suggested having someone come in and talk about something like the Historical Society or a Dighton Rock program. Carol Buote said that Dighton rock can be hard to

get to for some people so having a program here would be great. Elisabeth Monkowski talked about having an appraisal workshop. Nancy Thompson said she knows a couple of appraisers but they are proficient in a couple of areas and that no one is an expert in all things.

9. Brown Bag - Margaret Moroff spoke about Brown Bag she said there is no income requirement.

- V. Emergencies - Margaret Moroff talked about how heat emergencies are handled. She said after speaking with Russ Horgan from the Cert program that she learned that heat emergencies are handled by the fire department. If they declare an emergency than certain locations would be opened and the COA would be one of the first. Russ may come in and give a talk about how emergencies are handled. Margaret Moroff said that the office has not had anyone call about the heat. Krista Celia said that she spoke with Lucille our outreach coordinator and that Lakeville fundraises to provide seniors in need with things like air conditioning units if they can't afford them. Nancy Thompson said that she called the COA because she was concerned about seniors and the heat. She was concerned that the seniors who need help may not reach out. Margaret Moroff said if anyone knows of anyone who is struggling to please contact us. Arlene Medeiros said that we should put it in the newsletter. Krista Celia said that she would put something in the newsletter about the heat.
- VI. Margaret Moroff said that we are losing Lucille the outreach coordinator. Krista Celia said that Lakeville is advertising the position but the chances that the person who is hired will also have the Shine qualification as well would be slim. Carol Buote asked if Lucille had many Shine appointments and Margaret answered Yes. Margaret Moroff said that Lucille brought so much knowledge that she will be difficult to replace.
- VII. Friends Report - Elisabeth Monkowski said that the Friends have funds available if the COA has needs. Margaret Moroff said that at the moment there are not any big needs. Krista Celia mentioned needing funding for the Ward 5 Social and the Christmas Party.

#### VIII Public Input-

1. Arlene Medeiros asked if the Marc Pacheco letter had been mailed and Krista Celia said it is on her to do list.
2. Nancy Thompson asked if it would be possible to do a ceramics event at the same time as the Christmas Tree event because some seniors have already done this project. Margaret said this is a special event. Krista Celia said Dale from Pagano Ceramics is coming back in December and it may be confusing to have two separate events happening at the same time. Margaret Moroff said why don't we see what we get for sign-ups for the event. Krista Celia said there is access to ceramics every month. She went on to say that in order for this event to move forward she will need the signups to happen in September. She said we will know with enough time to schedule something else if this does not work.
3. Interm Town Administrator, Kevin Patridge spoke at the meeting to let people know that the new town administrator's first day would be Monday. He said there would be a meet and greet between 10 and 11 in the hearing room. Then on August 17 we are going to have Congressman Auchincloss here from 3-4 in the afternoon.
4. Kathee Strozzyk said she spoke with the woman from Bristol Elders about the board position opening. Kathee said that she was told there were several positions opening in September. Although she was not sure how many. Kathee said that she learned that there are subcommittees and the information learned from these could be useful to learn about some of the services that are offered. Kathee said that the woman she spoke to liked the idea of having someone from a smaller

community on the board bc most of the members are from larger communities. Margret Moroff said that in the past, ideally, they wanted someone from every community. Kathee Strozyk said that in order to be appointed you need to apply and that would be reviewed. Margaret said back when she did it all you had to do was call but covid changed a lot. Margaret said it was more of an oversight committee. Kathee stated that is what it continues to be but there are many subcommittees. Kathee went on to say that she was getting an application sent to her along with the timetable. Kathee Strozyk said that she had spoken with Cathy Charette prior and one of them may submit an application.

5. Donna Bennoit said that an event about CBD would be interesting. Carol Buote said that the library is having a program on hemp next week. Carol said it would be to teach what hemp is and how to use it. The products would be low THC or no THC. Carol said the products do not get you high but rather help with things like sleep and pain. She invited anyone to come and learn.
6. Margret Moroff returned to the topic of the Christmas lunch and Krista asked if there would be limited signups and if there would be a fee for people who wished to come and were not from Berkley. Margret Moroff said that only Berkley residents can go to the Christmas Party and working Friends. Margret Moroff said we have people who work very hard for the COA who are members of the Friends of Berkley but not from Berkley and they should be included in the Christmas Party.
7. Margret Moroff asked if the COA should have a table at the upcoming craft fair. The group agreed that would be a great idea. Margret Moroff said the COA could put out our newsletters and maybe a little blurb about our food program. Margaret said maybe someone could show off the ceramics that they have made. Nancy Thompson said the newsletter is very attractive to open up. Kathee Strozyk said that having the newsletter at the craft fair could open up interest with a younger group who could then pass the information along to their mother or grandmother. Elisabeth Monkowski asked if the COA would fill out an application so she could assign a table.

The next meeting was announced for September 7<sup>th</sup> at 9:30.

Carol Buote motioned to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned.

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