

BERKLEY COUNCIL ON AGING
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 14, 2024

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

- I. **Call to Order** – Margaret Moroff called the meeting to order at 9:31 in the hearing room. She reminded everyone that the meeting is being recorded.
- II. **Acceptance of Prior Minutes** – The board voted unanimously to accept the minutes from 09/12/24 and 10/10/24
- III. **FY 2024 Budget** - Krista Celia presented the financial report for October 31, 2024
 1. Town Budget Balance: Salary: \$22,122, Town Funded Accounts: \$3226.04
 2. Formula Grant: \$17,700.48
 3. Program Donations: \$10,470.93
 4. General Donations: \$4646.39
- IV. **Events** – The board discussed the following upcoming events
 - a. Card Making scheduled for 11/21/24 has 6 people signed up. Krista Celia suggested next December revisiting offering holiday card making as a free class.
 - b. Brown Bag and Blood Pressure clinic are scheduled for 11/27/24. The townhall is closed that day but the COA will be open for Brown Bag, Grab and Go, and the Blood Pressure Clinic. The COA will close for the day at 11:30. Margaret Moroff explained that there are no income requirements. Krista Celia explained that the only questions are name, address, phone, and household demographics. The Brown Bag distribution for December will be one week early on 12/18/24 due to the holiday on the 25th.
 - c. The Berkley Congregational and the Myricks Methodist Churches are distributing holiday meals to senior individuals or couples who will be alone on the holiday. For the Thanksgiving meal the deadline to sign up is 11/20/25. The meal includes turkey, side dishes, and dessert.
 - d. Lights on Celebration will be held on 12/01/24. The friends will be selling hot dogs. There was some concern about the bathrooms, but they will be open. The library will be open and their bathroom will be open as well and the hours will be from 4:00 – 7:00. The COA will be open with the tables set up and Santa will be across the hall in the hearing room.
 - e. Podiatry will be held on 12/12/24. There are only a couple of open slots left in the schedule.
 - f. Holiday party will be 12/14/24 at the Berkley Middle School and that event is at capacity and utilizing a waitlist. Representative Norman Orrall, State Senator Kelly Dooner, the Berkley Selectmen and the Town Administrator will be invited as special guests. The COA is looking for raffle baskets.
 - g. Lucky Bunny Ornament Class will be held 12/11/24. It is a 7-inch plaque decorated in ribbon and paint. The fee will be \$ 5.00 for Berkley residents and \$10.00 for non-residents.
 - h. Fall Prevention with Liza Amaral from the Berkley Fire Department will be held on 01/16/25.
 - i. Painting with Amy will be offered on 01/23/24.
 - j. Singo which is musical Bingo will replace a scheduled Bingo in the COA on 01/29/25.
 - k. Summer with the Ospreys will be offered in conjunction with Berkley Public Library on 02/20/25. Margaret Moroff contacted local author Steven Manchester. He agreed to donate a book to the library. Margaret spoke to him about doing a program at the senior center.
- V. **Proposed New Events** –
 1. Refuse to be a Victim – A two-part series will be reoffered in February. The cost to the COA will be \$200 per class. It will be offered for free. The pepper spray class is still in the works.

2. Eden Jones from the Historical Society will be scheduled to run one of her events.

- VI. **Chairs** – The board approved of the 2 sample chairs purchased from Home Depot and agreed to purchase a total of 20 new chairs.
- VII. **Friends** – There was no one from the friends at the meeting. KC informed the board that the Friends were planning monthly lunches and MM discussed the potential for a trip to New Hampshire and a trip to Myrtle Beach.
- VIII. **Public Input** – Nan Thompson expressed concern about Berkley residents on the waitlist for the holiday party. NT asked if there was a two-week period for just Berkley residents to sign up and KC replied that no the board had decided that there would not be a period of time for exclusively Berkley resident sign ups. That sign ups would begin on the Monday following the announcement of the party in the newsletter. NT asked if the newsletter specified that signing up asap was imperative and suggested that in the future that it be made clear that signing up asap is necessary. KC agreed that encouraging people to sign up sooner rather than later should be a priority.
- IX. **Next Meeting** – December 5th in the hearing room at 9:00.
- X. **Motion to Adjourn.** The board voted to adjourn the meeting at 10:09.