

**Franklin Council on Aging**  
**May 9, 2023**  
 Franklin Senior Center Meeting Room

Members present: Bob Crowley (Chair), Jan Jewett (Vice Chair), Lyn O'Brien (Secretary), Ken Norman, Faith Flaherty, Phyllis Malcolm, Bob Kaufman, Kimberly Mu-Chow, Lester Quan

Also Present: Danielle Hopkins (FSC Director), Sarah Amaral (FSC Deputy Director), Nan Rafter (FOFE President), Raeleen Gallivan (new Social Service Coordinator)

**Call to Order:** 10:00am

Minutes of last meeting April 11, 2023: Approved with minor correction to change "RSV" to RSVP.

**Citizen's Comments:** Introduced to Raeleen Gallivan

**Correspondence:** Danielle reports a few thank you notes received.

**Housing Authority Update** (Lisa Audette, ED Franklin Housing Authority)

- Overview of senior population changes, housing trends of current population to stay in their current home so available housing for new families is in crisis.
- 219 units in "housing stock" – of those units:
  - 165 are 1 BR senior disabled units, includes 4 units of congregate housing (shared living). Residents in congregate housing have to be screened carefully and can be hard to keep full for any extended time.
  - 33 Family units of 1 and 2 BR apartments.
  - 2 developments for developmentally disabled adults (both 8 units).
  - 4 properties/5 units also available (1 is new on Summer Street).
- Wait list: 13,200 + on the Franklin list. Of that, 360 residents are local / Franklin residents. All residents have to be on the wait list prior to being considered for housing. This includes a state-wide waiting list that started about 5-6 years ago (CHAMP legislation). This restricts local residents as the list is longer and all applicants that qualify as "emergency status" take precedence. A discussion surrounding these facts including multiple questions and concerns from BOARD members followed.
- Franklin Housing Authority runs the Norfolk Housing Authority as well where there are 84 housing units.

**Director's Report: (Danielle Hopkins)** (See attached report for details).

- Building update: Furniture list is "moving" and being ordered, slow due to regulations for comfort and appropriate for a SC. Piano tuning scheduled.
- Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon: Success.
- First Responder Luncheon: Low attendance due to an emergency in the area at the same time.
- Budget FY '24 Approval: FINCOM meeting last night. Increase in budget was requested including for GATRA expenses of \$25,000 for seniors to have free access to transportation. Town Counsel meeting end of May and official budget will be approved then.

- Senior Olympics June 12-23 planned.
- Disability Expo May 20 at the FSC.
- Future Programs: Cribbage Tournament, Wood Carving Expo, Memorial Day Brunch, shredding event TBA.
- COA Board training session: June 13 from 1:30-3:30. Four Board Members will attend.
- FSC new logo being designed, a prototype was given to the BOARD for review.
- Activity and Social Services STATS reviewed (see attached).

**Chairman's Comments: (Bob Crowley):** None

**FOFE Report:** (Nan Rafter).

- Shrewsbury FOF members are networking with Franklin FOF to see if they can improve.
- Medium was successful and made a good deal of money.
- Bingo for Charter School planned to thank the children in June for cards they give to the FSC in the fall.
- Nominations: JoAnn for President, Nan for VP, Margie Lane for Secretary, Julie Garelli off as Treasurer and Pam Spicer nominated to be treasurer
- 924 members as of last month.

**Old Business:**

No feedback for the organization chart so that will be added to the manual.

**New Business:**

- Committee updates
  - Supportive Day Program Committee: Question re new organization of hiring two FT staff to replace current part time staff. The current PT staff is not able to work FT so had to decline this position. Advisors of this committee advocated to keep a PT position. Danielle discussed logistics of FT vs PT positions with 19 hours being considered the minimum amount of hours for benefits.
- Senior Expo Updates
  - Date: Friday, October 6 2023
  - Tom McAuliff /Radio in Milford has been the sponsor in the past and has reported interest in doing so again.
  - Dave Polanski – may be hired for entertainment.
  - Committee is meeting on Monday morning.

**Comments:** None

**Agenda for Next Meeting:** No specific items proposed.

**Adjournment:** Motion to adjourn – Ken Second – Lyn All approved.

Meeting ended at 11:07 am

Next meeting – June 13, 2023; 10-11am at the FSC Meeting room