



Board Minutes of 1/31/2023 (via Zoom)

Respectfully Submitted by Lori Howe

Voting Members Attending:

Pete Hoagland, Sally Tipton, Gerri Hawn, Jim Campbell, Ken Adams, Lori Howe

Voting Members Absent: *Pam Sampson*

Non-Voting Associate Members Attending: **0**

Non-Voting Associate Members Absent: *Pat Gray, Jean Rosseau*

Staff Attending: *Sue Kelliher, Kristina Gallant, Melinda Morle*

Community Members Attending: **0**

Voting Members Absent: **0**

Quorum? *Yes*

Call to Order by Chair Pete Hoagland at 9:35 a.m.

Pete Hoagland opened by welcoming all and moved directly into business.

Secretary Report/Minutes

The Minutes of the 12/7/22 Special Board Meeting and the 12/27/2022 Monthly Board Meeting were presented. Moved to Approve by Jim Campbell as presented with recommended change on page 2 of 12/7 Minutes, second by Sally Tipton. Roll call vote to unanimously accept minutes.

Treasurer Report by Gerri Hawn (see attached)

Gerri stated that our year-to-date-budget is about 55% spent. There was a lot of spending last month as many items came in late. Main spending was Senior Café at \$609. Lifetime Learning fees are coming in for Spring courses. Men's Lunch cost \$360. The Transportation bill for December from JFK was quite high at \$1,280, 2/3 of which is paid by our budget and one-third, or \$427, is covered by the revolving account. All in all we look good.

Director's Report – by Sue Kelliher (see attached reports). Following are highlights:

- *Movers are starting at the Library. Library staff is expecting to make a late February soft opening and an official ribbon cutting in April. Liz Anderson is officially the new Director.*
- *Melinda will do a Caregiver Resource Fair at Pine Hill on Saturday, April 8. She will invite different organizations to have a table.*
- *Met today with the new CoA director from Medfield. Working together to coordinate programs.*
- *Life time Learning is going well. Just added Jack Craig.*
- *There will be a Valentine's Day Open House with refreshments from 10:30-12.*
- *This month's Lunch & Learn on Feb. 24th will feature a presentation on the healing powers of Laughter.*
- *We are up to 10 applications for the new Dial-a-Ride transportation program.*

- Sue is working with the Library to create intergenerational programs for March and April. This month there will be Valentines making, macrame and mosaics at a variety of times.
- Author Michael Tougias has been engaged to present on the Cuban Missile Crisis in May. Henry Quinlan will come at the end of February to speak on the Ukraine War and Putin; the session will be hybrid and take place in the Select Board Conference Room.
- Sue is anticipating the March 18th Select Board meeting and is uncertain what it will bring. She encouraged Board members to look at the minutes (online) of last week's Advisory Meeting. Sadly, it was contentious and accusatory between committee members and presenters.

Jim shared compliments from two friends in Millis who said they were impressed with the weekly email blast, its presentation and range of offerings.

Jim also congratulated Sue on her recent budget increase presentation to the Advisory Committee. Next our request will go to the Select Board on March 18th and Jim feels we have to use the power of numbers to gain their approval. He also asked how the Letter of Endorsement fits into our strategy for this meeting. Sue conveyed that Diane said that the more people we can get to the March 18th meeting the better. Sue said this meeting will be on Zoom and she thinks that the public can add comments and ask questions.

Gerri said she thought it would help to find out what the real cost is of adding a benefitted staff member. Pete had asked Deb about this and she didn't know. He learned that Retirement contributions account for 7.97% of the Town budget, while Health Insurance is the other biggest portion. Gerri said she thought it should be relatively easy to get the benefit numbers and offered to email the head of Advisory requesting the actual cost they are looking at. Gerri stressed that it is important to get the signed Letter of Endorsement to them before the end of the month and suggested February 24th as our target date.

Ken asked whether Advisory is more concerned about Seniors or Costs to the Town. Jim and Sally both felt it's a financial issue; Advisory and Select Board want to avoid an Override request. Ken asked if we could look at other similar towns to compare our staffing rates with theirs, thinking this would be good data for Advisory.

Lori recommended adding some of our data to the Letter of Endorsement including the dollar amount of our budget request. Gerri suggested we mention that COA brings in additional funds too in the form of grants, etc. In terms of additional data, Ken asked if we can determine what percentage of taxes are paid by Seniors. Jim supported this question and offered to pursue it. Gerri also suggested adding the dollar amount of each Salary.

Community Needs Assessment. The Board will meet again on February 15th to continue working on a plan. Since the last meeting, a couple of things have happened:

- I. Jim has compiled a large amount of data to assist the Board's work, including a comparison of Board priority rankings with Survey respondents and a profile of Sherborn's senior population.
- II. Sue has reviewed the Town of Carlisle strategic plan and set out four goals for us to consider:
 1. Community Engagement
 2. Quality Programming
 3. Advocacy & Resources
 4. Social & Support Services

Other New Business

Pete asked if there were any other items of business for the Board. There were none.

Adjournment

- **Motion to Adjourn:** by Sally Tipton. Second by Gerri Hawn. Unanimous roll call vote to approve.
- **Adjournment at 10:11 a.m.**

Meeting Schedule for 2023: 1/31, 2/28, 3/28, 4/25, 5/30, 6/27, 7/25, 8/29, 9/26, 10/31, 11/28 and 12/26

Minutes Approved on 2/28/2023. Attachments available upon request.