

GREAT BARRINGTON COUNCIL ON AGING

**Claire Teague Senior Center
917 Main Street
Great Barrington, MA 01230
Phone: (413) 528-1881
MEETING MINUTES
March 28, 2018**

WELCOME: The meeting of the Great Barrington Council on Aging held at The Claire Teague Senior Center, 917 Main Street, Great Barrington, Massachusetts was called to order at 1:20 PM by Chair David Rutstein.

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Chair David Rutstein, Vice Chair Pat Kinne, Treasurer Maureen Avery, Secretary Susan Hipwell, Barbara Bailly, Jeanne Holcomb, Amy Rutstein. Also in attendance was Executive Director of the Claire Teague Senior Center, Polly Mann Salenovich,

MINUTES: Chair Rutstein asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the February 28, 2018 meeting. The motion to approve the minutes was made by Member Rutstein and seconded by Member Bailly.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Avery stated: As of today, March 28, 2018, there is an account balance of 19,999.71. Vice Chair Kinne approved the report and Member Rutstein seconded it.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Rear View:

- Due to snow storms many of March's scheduled events were cancelled.
- The COA Board Training, facilitated by Emmet Schmarsow and the Regional COA Meeting with guest speaker, State Representative, Smitty Pignatelli was hugely informative. Thank you, both!
- Berkshire Regional Housing Representative, Kate Alexander's fraud presentation was interesting and genuinely enlightening.
- Berkshire Health Systems, BHS Health Posture and Elder Services coordinated a small health fair that included the TUG test.
- Elder Services' nutritionist gave a talk on the importance of hydrating. Culligan Water provided a water dispenser at no charge for a limited time.
- The last "Saturday Bingo" of the season was held this past Saturday, March 24th.
- Bill Meyers gave a fun presentation about his free swim program and will be participating in CTSC's upcoming Senior Fitness Week in May.
- Cook-out, pie contest and karaoke held today was highly attended and enjoyed by all.

Look Ahead:

- April 1st: Public Budget Hearing
- April 7th - 2:00 PM: Bingo & Pie a la Mode - Scholarship Fundraiser sponsored by the Thursday Morning Club & General Federation of Women's Clubs.
- April 12th - 11:15 AM - 2:00 PM: Health New England representative, Lee Jaggi, will present information about Medicare and will explain the difference between original Medicare and a Medicare Advantage Plan
- April 16th - CTSC closed for Patriot's Day observance

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- April 17th - 8:30 AM: The Third Tuesday Breakfast to begin again for the season.
11:00 AM - 12:00: Rescheduled St. Patrick Day Party – Thank you GB Health Care for your generosity in providing us seniors with your wonderful free lunches every month.
- April 18th - 7:00 PM: The GB Historical Society Program presents “School Days in Great Barrington.” Guest speaker, David Rutstein, will take a look back at the history of Searles High School. A book signing of David’s new book, “A History of Searles High School” will follow.
- April 19th - 1:00 PM: Berkshire Center for Craniofacial Pain & Dental Sleep Medicine – Dr. Frederick Hyman will speak about the services he provides at his GB office for the treatment of TMJ pain, headaches, neck pain, face pain, snoring and sleep apnea.
- April 24th - 11:00 AM - 12:00: Special TRIAD Cook-Out and Defense Tactics Demonstration by Berkshire County Sheriff’s Officers.
- April 27th - 12:00: Tap Fest: “Become a Bird Brain” - An indubitably funny tap dance performance by talented teacher Carolyn Calandro is not to be missed!
- May 2nd - 5:00 PM: Berkshire Bird Program to be given by GB Land Conservancy birders, Sharon Siter and Christine Ward.
- May 18th - Monument Mountain High School Jazz Band and Pathway Program Students will be assisting and joining us for our very first “Prom.”

Music for April

- April 10th – Doug Schmolze
- April 17th – Andy Kelly Irish Band
- April 26th – Willie Nininger
- April 30th – Bill Shontz

“Complete Streets” Survey & Meeting: Polly was asked to be on the Complete Streets Team and is requesting the GB COA to complete their survey and to encourage others to do the same.

BOARD SPEAKS: Members discuss the viability of “Friends of the Claire Teague Senior Center” going forward. A meeting will be scheduled in April to re-establish “Friends” which was disbanded.

CITIZENS SPEAK: Citizen Michelle Gilligan, board member of the “Friends of the Claire Teague Senior Center” of Great Barrington, Massachusetts, discusses the past, present and future of this not-for-profit organization which was established and incorporated in 2012 for the purpose of providing support and opportunities for Great Barrington seniors. Citizen Holly Hammer references the function and policies of “Friends of the Great Barrington Libraries.”

ADJOURNMENT: The Chair called for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Vice Chair Kinne made the motion to adjourn and Member Rutstein seconded. It was unanimously agreed to adjourn at 2:10 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hipwell Morris

Secretary

Approved April 25, 2018