

GREAT BARRINGTON COUNCIL ON AGING

**Claire Teague Senior Center
917 Main Street
Great Barrington, MA 01230
Phone: (413) 528-1881
MEETING MINUTES
March 27, 2019**

WELCOME: The meeting of the Great Barrington Council on Aging held at The Claire Teague Senior Center, 917 Main Street, Great Barrington, Massachusetts is 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, Members Barbara Bailly, Eileen Gaarn, Jeanne Holcomb, Sandra Larkin and Amy Rutstein are in attendance. Polly Mann Salenovich, Director of the Claire Teague Senior Center is also present.

MINUTES: Chair Rutstein asks for a motion to approve the minutes of February 27, 2019. Member Rutstein makes the motion to approve and Member Holcomb seconds the motion.

TREASURER'S REPORT: Treasurer Avery reports a balance in the treasury of \$25,616.56

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

New "on-going" event updates:

- Melt Workshops
- Painting with Margaret
- Moves and grooves
- Pizza and Bingo
- Monthly Movies
- Trips with Sheffield
- Sing A-Long
- Knitting Lessons

Upcoming Events in April:

- Fridays in April – FREE knitting lessons by Peg Betterman. Knitting supplies will be provided, but you are welcome to bring your own.
- Monday, April 8th – "Age Friendly Berkshires" video showing to follow lunch. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, by 2030, 60% of Berkshire County residents will be age 50 or older. With a median age of 44, Berkshire County is older than the rest of Massachusetts (median age of 39) and the U.S. (median age 36). This collaborative was created to ensure that residents can live active, safe, healthy and independent lives in their homes or hometowns, for as long as possible.
- Thursday, April 11th – 12:30 PM – 1:30 PM – Karl Finger returns to the Center offering an hour of music and singing. Please join us for a fun time!

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- Friday, April 12th, noon – Music Circle: Oren Rosenthal, a music therapist and community musician, plays the fiddle, guitar, and accordion, helping people to experience the satisfaction of making music.
- Wednesday, April 17th – 7:00 PM: The Historical Society is hosting a special event in honor of Jackie Robinson's 100th birthday. Kevin Larkin will present a program about Negro League Baseball in Massachusetts & the role of the black baseball player in the state. He will also highlight the black athlete's struggle to gain a role and acceptance into one of America's favorite pastimes.
- Friday, April 19th - 12:15 PM – Friday Movie: "The Big Sick." The movie is based on the real-life courtship between Pakistan-born comedian Kumail Nanjiani & grad student Emily Gordon who fall in love, but struggle while dealing with Emily's mysterious illness and their families' culture clash. Also starring Ray Romano & Holy Hunter. Popcorn will be served. A sign-up sheet is in the dining room.
- Tuesday, April 23 – 11:15 AM – 12:15 PM - Music by Willie Nininger & Free lunch (pulled pork, coleslaw and potato salad) by Great Barrington Health Care. Once again, many thanks to Great Barrington Health Care for their enjoyable meals.

Upcoming Events in May:

- Thursday, May 23rd – Casino Trip – Sheffield & Gt. Barrington Senior Centers - \$84.00 per person – includes chartered coach, lunch (choice of Prime Rib of Beef /Lobster), \$20.00 in free slot play, \$10.00 for a food voucher and entertainment during lunch. Check made payable to the Claire Teague Senior Center by May 7th.
- Wednesday, May 29th – 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM – "2019 Health & Safety Fair" held by A.G.E. TRIAD & Great Barrington Council on Aging.

What you can plan to see at the Fair . . .

- Berkshire County Sheriff Self Defense "Stop the Bleed"
- Demonstrations by the GB Fire Department
- GB Police Department
- Fairview Hospital – Choke Saver & Heimlich Demos

AND MUCH MORE!



There will be FREE transportation by SBETC to the Senior Center, compliments of the Great Barrington Council on Aging, and FREE hamburgers and hot dogs.

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- “90 and over” Luncheon (date not yet set) – A special luncheon at the center to honor all of our friends that are turning 90 this year and those who are already 90 or older. Susan Segall, special guest singer, performing. Invitation by mail. Details to come . . .

Upcoming event in June:

- June 6th - Trip to Hildene - Manchester, Vermont: Arranged by the Lenox Council on Aging. Cost per person is \$60.00 which includes transportation, full admission and a luncheon buffet. Full payment is due to Lenox Council on Aging no later than May 20th. It will be first come, first serve.

Formula Grant Update: \$22,500 from the state – used for very specific items. \$15,000 goes to SBETC to transport seniors and the remainder of \$7,500 goes to exercise programs. As of last month, out of the \$7,500, \$3,462 of the grant remains and the Center should come out even at the end of the fiscal year.

Line Item for fiscal year: \$45,000 for transportation, \$7,950 for activities program (\$4,000 remains), \$2,500 for office supplies, \$1,400 for travel and training, \$350 for dues & membership.

Earmark update: \$1,300 for kitchen appliances, \$1,600 for outreach (newsletter blast), \$9,550 estimate for acoustic paneling and sound system, \$2,000 for shades, office remodel (waiting for DPW quote).

BOARD SPEAKS: Member Barbara Bailly proposes a “Fix-It” Workshop.

ADJOURNMENT: The Chair calls for a motion to adjourn the meeting. Member Bailly makes the motion to adjourn and Member Rutstein seconds the motion. It is unanimously agreed to adjourn at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan Hipwell Morris

Secretary

Approved May 1, 2019