



**TOWN OF BOXBOROUGH**  
Council on Aging Meeting Minutes

COA Members Present: Barbara Birt; Anne Canfield; Bill Litant; Maureen Masciola; Marney Stoumbelis & Karen Whitcomb

Others Present: Kim Dee, COA Coordinator; John Fallon, FCOA Liaison & Police Chief John Szewczyk

Absent: Tina Bhatia

Meeting Date: May 8, 2023

The meeting was called to order by COA Chair Bill Litant @ 3:02 pm

Minutes of April 10, 2023 approved with date correction

Greeting from Police Chief John Szewczyk

- John expressed how happy he is to be working in Boxborough. He hopes to be able to get out more among the townspeople. He would like to visit more organizations to see how everyone works together.
- Chief Szewczyk would like to offer programs for seniors that would educate them about scams.

Buzz Update:

- Currently working on the June/July issue of the Buzz.

Grant Report:

- CHNA will present a program called "Ice Cream isn't Just for Kids." Everyone will meet at Kimball Farms in Westford on June 6th @ 1:30 pm.
- Nara Park will host the CHNA group on June 2, 9, 16, & 23 from 10:00 to 11:00 am. People can gather, have coffee and pastries, and walk around the park.

COA Coordinators Report:

- The April luncheon had 42 seniors in attendance and was sponsored by the Boxborough Minutemen. Following the luncheon, we had entertainment by Matt York: "Johnny Cash Songs, and Stories".
- Six people enjoyed a delicious breakfast at As Good As It Gets Cafe in Acton on April 24th.
- Three seniors, Barbara, Taryn, and Karen, attended the Coffee and Chat with Kim and Rajon. Rajon shared his plans for a Citizens Academy that will begin in September. This ten-week program will explain each department in town and what they do.
- The Greater Worcester Opera Company performed a vibrant concert with their take on Broadway show tunes. Everyone seemed to enjoy their remarkable voices and comical versions of some tunes. Fourteen seniors attended this lively performance.
- The Great American Experience: Music of World War II, presented by John Clark on May 3rd at the Library, had 14 people in attendance. His presentation focused on those difficult times and was well received by everyone.
- Kim attended Senator Jamie Eldridge's Senior Conference in Marlborough on April 20th. Kim met six Boxborough residents there.
- The Birding Walk was rescheduled from May 3rd until May 9th due to weather. Six people have signed up to join Becky Harris at Flerra Meadows to identify the birds that visit that area.

- This month's lunch is Wednesday, May 10th, sponsored by the Boxborough Police Department. We have 50 people signed up to attend. Our Veteran Agent, James MacRae, will speak about services for veterans and their spouses at the end of lunch.
- Another program this month will include a presentation by storyteller Todd Goodwin, "Growing Up Grubby." Out to Breakfast at the Stow Cafe, a hard cider tasting at the Pony Shack Cidery, a chocolate tasting at Two Friends Chocolates, and Essential Estate Planning by Attorney Cathleen Summers, which is being co-sponsored by the UCCB Open Door Team.
- Next month we launch our IT Assistance Program. We have four information technology-savvy people willing to volunteer to help our seniors with their questions and issues with their computers, internet, and smartphones. They will contact us, and we will give their names, contact information, and IT issues to one of our volunteers, and they will either help them over the phone or set up an appointment at Town Hall or the Community Center.
- A wonderful time was had by all at the Isabelle Stewart Gardner Museum. Transportation was costly, and unfortunately, the traffic home was horrid.
- The Friends of Council on Aging will host our June Luncheon.
- In July, we will offer an Ice Cream Truck, Grab N' Go, sponsored by the soon-to-be former Boxborough Liquor and Convenience Store owners.
- We are also co-hosting an Indian Vegetarian Lunch with the UCC Church in June.
- We are doing an Out to Lunch, instead of an Out to Breakfast trip, to the Club Cafe in West Concord and a trip to the Charles River Museum in June.
- We are hosting an Elder Law Education Program, a Great American Experience in June, and a Baseball Program called "What Do You Know About Johnny Pesky?" in July.
- We are working on establishing a monthly call-in program called "Ask a Lawyer" to provide free legal advice to seniors.
- We will not be offering luncheons in July or August.

COA Chair Report:

- Bill had nothing to report.

FCOA Chair Report:

- The Friends of the Council on Aging are planning a "picnic" style luncheon for our seniors in June.

Other Business:

- Karen plans on calling into the June meeting via phone. She will attempt to take meeting notes. If this works out she will continue for the months she is away.

Date of next meeting: **June 12, 2023 @ 3:00 pm**

Adjourned: 3:49 pm