

Well-Being Committee
Meeting Minutes
August 3 2021

Members Present: Liz Markiewicz, Al Murphy, Mary Pavlik, Rose Gage
(Community Support Coordinator)

Others present: Cassie LaRussa, Becky Neville, Rev Cindy Worthington-Berry

Meeting was held in person with Rev Cindy W-B on zoom. The meeting was called to order via roll call vote: Mary Pavlik, aye; Al Murphy, aye; Liz Markiewicz, aye

1. Minutes from June 2021 were approved by roll call vote: Mary Pavlik, aye; Al Murphy, aye; Liz Markiewicz, aye
2. Community Services Coordinator update

Administrative assistant: Rose discussed the application process and review, with 7 applications received and 4 applicants invited to interview. Interviews are scheduled for Aug 17 and Aug 24.

Increase in mental health issues: Rose discussed the increase in mental health issues, citing the day before as having 4 police reports referred to her with suicide attempts.

Budget for resident support: Al asked about any funds budgeted from the Cares Act, which Rajon is in process of investigating for details to determine how to access funding. There was discussion of the need for a Community Fund Chest, possibly for 10K, under Well-Being that could be created as a warrant article next year. For now, Rose refers to clients in immediate need to Friend in Need and United Way grants, and SMOC for longer term.

Free Bee Market set up: Rose will be attending Free Bee Market on Aug 7 to share resources, including collecting school supplies and signups for school supplies and backpacks. She will share resources for residents, including BRAF info and fuel assistance for winter. Rob McNeece will accompany Rose as the volunteer liaison for fuel assistance.

Rose discussed filled the empty backpacks with the purchased school supplies from last year's budget. It was suggested that she request senior work off help.

Rose discussed resources and items available for Fifer's Day. The tent will have a mindfulness theme, as well as sharing resources, there will be opportunities to make stress balls, and signup for school supplies. Kim Dee will be there for extra help and representation of the COA.

3. Boxborough Bee Update

Cassie LaRussa was introduced as a volunteer now helping to write, edit and report for the Boxborough Bee. The next issue is coming out on August 20.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion centered around the challenge of affordable housing in town. BRAF applications are at 3-4 and are for 3 years at \$250/month paid to the landlord. Members discussed the possibility of extending the number of years, or number of applications. AI will discuss with the Housing Board.

Meeting was adjourned via roll call vote: Mary Pavlik, aye; Al Murphy, aye; Liz Markiewicz, aye.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Pavlik

NEXT MEETING on ZOOM: September 16 @8:15am