

Harvard Council on Aging  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, August 15, 2023  
At 9:00 am  
Zoom and in-person Meeting

Attendees in person: Guy Oliva, Elizabeth Williams, Chet Hooper, Lynne Musto-Pesa, Debbie Thompson (director)

Attendee via Zoom: Kim Schwarz, Kelene Blumstein, Margaret Murphy

Absent: Wade Holtzman, Ira Ockene

Friends of COA:

Heidi Siegrist and Sheila Simollardes attended in person

The meeting was called to order at about 9:02 am by Guy Oliva.

The minutes of the June 20, 2023, meeting were approved.

Debbie Thompson submitted the following Director's Report:

**quote**

Council on Aging Director's Report  
Respectfully submitted, Deborah D. Thompson  
Board meeting August 15, 2023  
**MEETING IS AT 9AM**

**OUTREACH:**

Our outreach team has been working to help a few seniors find housing, and they are 99% there with someone helping them into Bowers Brook. The housing complexes all say they have a 2 year waiting period, but once in a while, things happen like people move out or pass away sooner than expected, and one or two apartments come available. That is what happened here, and we have been working to fill those apartments with seniors from Harvard who really don't want to move out of town.

**PROGRAMS:**

We are offering many more trips and they have been well-received, and well-attended. In addition, we have started offering some classes during non-business times and a key has been placed outside for the instructor to access so things are really picking up here.

You can see the programs that we have planned for August in the list below. Please put the Volunteer Luncheon on your calendar and try to make it for this event. I am planning to get the food from Siam Pepper here in Harvard, and it's the first opportunity we have had to offer a truly nice THANK YOU to our volunteers in over three years! Hope to see you all here!

**TREASURER REPORT:**

The finance department is working on closing out the accounts from FY23, so there is no information to share at this time.

**THE BIG MOVE:**

We have pretty much settled in here at our new "digs" even though there are some boxes we still have to unpack and possibly purge, but we are here. We have assembled storage racks, bookcases, and desks and are working hard to

organize so we can find things we need. There is less storage in this building, so finding places for items we need has been a challenge, but we will find our way.

I am planning an OPEN HOUSE for the community on October 4<sup>th</sup> from 1-3pm and ask that the COA Board hosts this open house, so please put that date on your calendars!

**COMING EVENTS:        Programs are in person unless otherwise noted.**

Wednesday, August 16 10:30am trip to Pickety Place, Mason, NH  
Thursday, August 17 9-12 REIKI by appointment  
Friday, August 18 11am Cooking with Anton  
Monday, August 21 10:15 Lowell Locks trip  
Tuesday, August 22 1pm Brain healthy cooking for 1  
Thursday, August 24 10-1 VACCINE BOOSTER CLINIC by appointment  
Friday, August 25 12 noon **VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON**  
Wednesday, August 30 9:30 Addison Gallery trip  
Wednesday, September 6 Performance "Jumpin Juba"

This meeting is an IN-PERSON meeting for all board members. I truly hope you can all make it in person, but if you can't, then we have set up a Zoom link which is on the agenda for this meeting. We will have the coffee on.  
**unquote**

Debbie explained that the new building has a lock box, which holds a key to the meeting areas and rest rooms of the new building. That key will be used by after hours programs. Use of the new building will be scheduled through Debbie. More people visit the new building than had visited Hildreth House. People realize that COA is here and is active.

A booster clinic will be scheduled soon.

Guy explained the very good AV system that will be installed. A 50% deposit has been paid for it.

Plans for art on the walls of the new building were discussed. Five Sparks may help with this project.

Kelene Blumstein will be the COA liaison to the Select Board.  
Margaret Murphy will be the COA liaison to the Planning Board  
Beth Williams and Kim Schwarz will constitute the COA Transportation Committee.  
Chet Hooper will be the Recorder.

The MART program was discussed as well as the parking location for the two vans. In addition to the vans, a livery service may start in October, 2023.

Sidewalks and cross walks may be installed on Ayer Road in 2025 or 2026. A bicycle path may also be installed from Old Mill Road to Devens.

The need for a joint meeting of the COA and Friends of the COA was discussed.

Future meetings of the COA board will be held on Tuesdays at 4:00 pm

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45am.