

Adams Council on Aging Advisory Board (ACOAAB)

MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 1, 2024

2:00 pm

3 Hoosac St., Adams, MA 01220

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Members Present: Bruce Shepley, Chair; Aleta Moncecchi, Vice Chair; Elizabeth Mach, Secretary; Ben Acquista; Leona Meczywor; Pam St. John

Excused Absents: Thomas Dubis; Mary Whitman; Barbara Ziemba

Also Present: Sarah Fontaine, ACOA Director

Documents: Agenda; Meeting Minutes (February 5, 2024 and March 4, 2024); The Buzz Calendar

1. **CALL TO ORDER/QUORUM:** B. Shepley, Chair, opened and called to order the regular meeting of the ACOAAB at 2:00 pm. Roll call was conducted with the establishment of a quorum.

2. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of the March 4, 2024 meeting were submitted for approval. A. Moncecchi made a motion to accept the March 4, 2024 meeting minutes and waive the reading. L. Meczywor seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

3. **PROGRAM/OUTREACH REPORT:**

A. **Recent Events/Program Review:** A report of recent events was presented by S. Fontaine, the ACOA Director.

March: AARP Tax-Aide Program on Mondays and Thursdays 9 am-1 pm; Art w/ Donna resumes Mondays at 1 pm, 3/1 Matter of Balance Graduation; 3/4 Read Across America Day, COA Board Meeting; 3/5 Davis Bates Irish Songs & Stories; 3/6 Friends Meeting – election of new President; 3/7 Slam the Scam w/ St. John Law; 3/11 Encore Casino Bust Trip; 3/12 Mobile Food Bank, Caregiver Support Group; 3/13 Partnership Kick-Off w/ Adams Housing Authority, Living w/ Loss Support Group; 3/14 St. Patrick's Day Linen Lunch; 3/18 Social Group; 3/19 Foot Care/BP clinics, Cabin Fever Intergenerational Lunch w/ BART Student Chorus; 3/20 Cash Bingo; 3/22 Brown Bag; 3/24 Thunderfest

@ AVC; 3/25 Aquaponics Tour at House of Correction; 3/26 Mobile Food Bank, Tea w/ Strangers at The Daily Grind; 3/27 Drumming, 3/28 Egg Color Craft w/ Barb

B. Upcoming Events/Programs Review: A report regarding upcoming events was presented by S. Fontaine, ACOA Director.

April: AARP Tax-Aide Program on Mondays and Thursdays 9 am-1 pm through 4/8/24; 4/1 COA Board Meeting; 4/3 Friends Meeting; 4/8 Solar Eclipse viewing; 4/9 Cracker Jacks for Red Sox Opening Day, Mobile Food Bank, Caregiver Support Group, COA Budget Workshop; 4/10 Drumming, Living w/ Loss Support Group; 4/15 Closed for Patriot's Day; 4/16 Foot/BP Clinics, 4/17 Crafts w/ Izzie; 4/18 Linen Lunch; 4/22 Sundae Monday w/ HNE; 4/23 St. John Law Consults, Mobile Food Bank, ESBC Volunteer Event; 4/24 Tea w/ Strangers @ The Daily Grind; Cash Bingo; 4/25 UCP Assistive Device & Tech Road Show; 4/26 Brown Bag, Volunteer Recognition Luncheon at Zucchini's; 4/29 Social Group; 4/30 Bus Trip to Chicopee- Polish Museum, Lunch at Munich Haus, Stop at Bernat's Deli

May: 5/1 Friends Meeting; 5/6 COA Board Meeting; 5/7 Cinco de Mayo Taco Tuesday w/ HNE; 5/8 Living w/ Loss Support Group; 5/14 Mobile Food Bank, Caregiver Support Group; 5/15 Adams Housing Authority Dedication Event; 5/16 COA Staff at MCOA Spring Conference; 5/19 Bus Trip to Proctor's for Menopause the Musical; 5/21 Foot/BP Clinics; 5/23 ESBC Nutrition Screenings; 5/24 Brown Bag; 5/27 Closed for Memorial Day; 5/28 Mobile Food Bank; 5/29 St. John Law Consults

4. OLD BUSINESS:

- A. Community Round Table Follow-Up - The ACOA will provide volunteers to staff the Visitors' Desk on June 15 - 16 and August 24 - 25, 2024 from 10 am-5 pm. A volunteer sign-up form will be circulated. In addition, the ACOA will host a Coffee in the Court event on September 19, 2024.
- B. State Ethics Conflict of Interest Training - S. Fontaine provided a reminder to the ACOAAB members who have not completed the required training.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Save the Dates for Future ACOA Programs and Events;
 - Craft Fair & Bake Sale - To be held at the Adams Memorial building in June 2024.
 - Health Fair - To be held at the Adams Memorial building at the end of August 2024.

- Friends Fundraiser – Music by Tommy T and Black Velvet at the Forest Park County Club on September 24, 2024.
- B. Savoy Shared Services Contract for FY 2025 - S. Fontaine will initiate conversations with the Savoy Select board regarding the renewal of the shared services contract for the ACOA to provide services for the town of Savoy.
- C. Legislative Alert for FY 2025 - MCOA is seeking an increase to \$15 per senior for the FY25 State grant formula.

6. FRIENDS OF THE ACOA REPORT:

S. Fontaine announced the election of Pat Lanski from Savoy on March 6, 2024, as the new president of the Friends of the ACOA. S. Fontaine and the ACOAAB look forward to P. Lanski's leadership and contributions to the Friends of ACOA.

7. MEMBER ITEMS/COMMENTS:

ACOA Advisory Board member items discussed included;

- A. The next Tea with Strangers outreach event will be held from 1-2 pm on April 24, 2024, at the Daily Grind. Limited to five attendees with ACOAB members P. St John, L. Meczywor, and E. Mach attending.
- B. Movies at the ACOA will continue to be planned as the calendar of events allows. The town of Adams will host its summer movie nights inside the Adams Theatre to avoid cancellations due to inclement weather. Consider opportunities for evening transportation to an Adams Theatre performance.
- C. Adams 40 Under 40 Award Winner - Jay Meczywor chair of the Northern Berkshire Events Committee, Vice Chair of Adams Finance Committee, and a physical therapist was acknowledged for his personal and professional commitment as a 40 Under 40 award winner.
- D. Veterans' Outreach Agent Relocation to ACOA - Look for opportunities for outreach for new ACOA clients coming to the building to meet with the Veterans' Agent.

8. NEXT MEETING: ACOAAB's next meeting will be held on Monday, May 6, 2024, at 2:00 pm.

9. ADJOURNMENT: A motion to adjourn was made by P. St. John. Seconded by A. Moncecchi.

The motion passed unanimously. B. Shepley, chair, adjourned the meeting at 3:00 pm.