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**Freetown Council on Aging
227 Chase Road, Freetown, MA 02717
Meeting Minutes
Thursday, June 8, 2023**

Members Present: Robin Kendrick, Brenda Motta, Marion Rylands, Ruth Ferland, Sonny Barros, Evelyn Alves, Rebecca Frias

Absent: Bruce Wilbur

Members of the Senior Club were also present.

Call to Order

Robin Kendrick called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.

Secretaries Report

The minutes from the previous meeting were circulated and reviewed. There was one correction noted. Brenda Motta was not present at the May meeting.

Evelyn Alves made a motion to accept the minutes and was seconded by Sonny Barros. All in favor.

Treasurer's Report

No Treasurer's Report was provided at this time.

New Business

Report on Kitchen Stove

The decision was made on Tuesday, June 6th to turn off the stove in the kitchen. A representative from C & R came to inspect the stove and explained what causes the smell of gas. He noted the stove is not MA residential approved due to the pilots not being electronic. It was also noted the stove itself is extremely close to the hot water heater. Rebecca Frias, Bruce Wilbur and Robin Kendrick discussed the issues and made the decision to turn off the gas. Will discuss this decision with Deb Pettey, Town Administrator and Carl Bizarro, Building Inspector to review options and perhaps find a solution which may include trading the stove in for a smaller model.

Upstairs Flooring Replacement

The plan is to replace the flooring on the upstairs level from carpeting to vinyl. The funds will come out of the building fund. At this time floor samples are being explored.

Evelyn Alves made the motion to go forward with the new flooring. This was seconded by Brenda Motta. All in favor.

Discussion Concerning Pods Being Approved at Town Meeting

The pods were approved at the most recent town meeting. Brenda Motta, Sonny Barros and the Building Inspector will plan to meet with the pod company to ascertain whether or not the location is feasible and take note of any other suggestions the company may have. There will be numerous decisions to formulate as far as the layout is concerned, i.e. size, layout, windows, etc. Due to the cost of the pods, it is necessary for the job to go out for bid. Deb Pettey will send the plan out to bid.

Open COA Board Position

Two new Letters of Intent for the vacant Board position have been received. Marion Rylands recommended Sonny Barros for the position. This was seconded by Ruth Ferland. All in favor.

Planned Events

- Karaoke and Pizza is planned for Thursday, June 22nd at noon
- Elder Law & Ice Cream Sundaes Presentation will be held on Wednesday, July 12th at 1:00 PM
- SRTA – Transportation presentation - options for seniors and Ice Cream Sundaes on Wednesday, July 19th at 1:00 PM

Old Business

Funding for Newsletter

Rebecca Frias, Director, reached out to LPI Communities to inquire whether they could assist in funding our Newsletter. Unfortunately, it was noted they do not pay for postage, nor do they perform folding or mailing services.

Discussion on Creation of Friends of Freetown COA Entity

This agenda item was tabled.

COA Cookouts

As of this meeting, after numerous phone calls and messages, Stop & Shop has not returned our inquiries regarding whether they would fund our cookouts for this year. Rebecca noted she would try to reach out to Stop & Shop one last time.

Discussion was held concerning whether or not we may consider having it catered. Rebecca Frias suggested utilizing Tazz's BBQ and also ask Matt York return for entertainment.

Brenda Motta made the motion to go ahead with the BBQ and entertainment plan.

Other

A Senior Club member suggested contacting the Southcoast Community Foundation to inquire whether they could assist us in the cost/processing of our Newsletter. Rebecca will reach out to the Foundation.

The motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 2:05 PM by Evelyn Alves. Seconded by Sonny Barros.

All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Jacqueline Garell
Senior Clerk