

COA Advisory board public meeting

COA room Chester Town Hall

15 Middlefield Street

April 8, 2024

12:30 p.m.

In attendance: Keirsen Broman, Jane Sutton, Terry Donovan, Steve Rigazzio, Gate Gastan, Marge Laurie, Sherry Henry, Nick Panatella, Norma MacDonald

Terry motioned Keirsen accepted minutes of March 4, 2024

Old business:

Keirsen Broman director's report:

Selectman approved a sign advertising upcoming COA events

Steve found one on amazon for \$200

The board at the transfer station cannot be shared

Town clerk cannot share theirs

Yoga is only at 6 p.m. Wednesday. The train station offered to have classes for a small fee. The library is not an option neither is the old Chester grammar school. Is Chester elementary available? Possibly Keirsen could barter her serve safe with the train station and it could give the COA more exposure.

Do Re Mi singers will be back May 16th. Possibly try to schedule May 18th for Chester on Track.

New business:

Chester Theater starts their new season in June

The COA wants to have a tag sale at Chester on track with the library possibly joining in it was suggested that we schedule the tag sale at another date and advertise for vendors.

The Cornerstone Church will be closed at Chester on Track. The COA would like to offer soup and sandwiches, baked goods, public bathroom and a cooling area. The Selectmen have o.k. this with the stipulation the food is set up and served from the lobby. There will be no access by the public to other areas of the town hall. The COA members will monitor this.

There are many things to explore about considering the town to buy the Cornerstone Church. Terry asked about initial expenses, septic, handicap access, and is there grant money available? It was discussed putting the purchase of the Cornerstone Church on the warrant for the annual town meeting. Terry will talk to the selectmen. Someone will contact John Hultman if the town could get grant money to upgrade the Cornerstone Church as it is a historical building. Jane also mentioned the insurance on the church expires June 1, 2024.

Jane would like more information about where the COA stands financially. Keirsen will ask the town accountant for print outs of all accounts. We'll discuss further after the town budgets are approved.

"Keirsen requested \$1500 from the Gillette grant for outdoor equipment (party tent, grill, outdoor chairs, etc). We should hear soon if we will be awarded the grant. We received around \$800 last year and used it for the lockboxes."

The donation money collected at the COA goes to the donation account. Keirsen is having some difficulty getting reimbursed from the town for purchases made out of pocket for the COA. The town treasurer wants a detail of items purchased but when items are bought in town there is a total on the receipt not a breakdown of items. Keirsen will ask for a hand written receipt to go with the register receipt.

Dana Collins will be installing lock boxes for seniors.

The COA met Saturday march 30th with the finance committee to discuss next year's budget.

COA surveys: people have responded suggesting field trips, picnics etc.

Chester on track COA activities meeting scheduled for April 22, 2024 at 12:30 COA room all voted yes.

May 6, 2024 will be the next advisory board meeting.

Motion to adjourn Keirsen made a motion Norma seconded

Meeting adjourned 1:45 p.m.

Minutes approved date 5/6/24

Signed Joni Sutton