

## Preston Senior Affairs Committee

The March 1, 2022 Preston Senior Affairs Committee Teleconference meeting was called to order by Chairman Mary Lou Jensen at 1:01 p.m. Members in attendance included Elizabeth Bassette, Mary Lou Jensen, Marie Perrin, Morris Fishbone and Frances Minor.

**Minutes:** M. Fishbone made a motion to accept the January 4, 2022 Senior Affairs Committee meeting minutes as presented. Motion seconded by M. Perrin. Discussion: M. Perrin inquired as to who presided over the meeting. F. Minor explained that Elizabeth Bassette opened the meeting; elections of officers followed and Mary Lou Jensen assumed the responsibilities of Chairman for the remainder of the meeting. M. Fishbone questioned the timing of the senior bus replacement. F. Minor indicated that the vehicle replacement process is ongoing. The grant cycle will open up in the spring with more attention being given to its procurement. With no other discussion aired, the motion was approved.

Marie Perrin made a motion to accept the January 18, 2022 Budget Workshop meeting minutes as presented. Motion seconded by M. Fishbone. Motion approved.

Morris Fishbone made a motion to accept the January 26, 2022 Budget Workshop meeting minutes as presented. Motion seconded by E. Bassette. Motion approved.

**Correspondence:** F. Minor reviewed correspondence sent to Jill Keith, Town Clerk and Leigh Pappas, Web Master concerning the February meeting cancellation.

**Financial report:** The fiscal budget was reviewed at length by F. Minor. We continue to overspend line items for telecommunication and vehicle repairs. Senior Center repairs and supplies line item will be greatly impacted by the replacement of the kitchen sink and associated carpentry work. Also included in the discussion was the part-time staff line item. In the past, the committee approved the increase of staffing duties with the understanding that the yearend budget might be extremely tight. The Driver Line item reflects wages for our per-diem driver. The driver is employed full-time as a school bus driver consequently the availability is limited. When school isn't in session, her hours may certainly increase. The remaining line items are within normal projections. The current budget reflects a substantial balance but it doesn't reflect a true picture as a number of expenditures arrive during the month of June. M. Fishbone made a motion to accept the Financial Report as presented. Motion seconded by ML. Jensen. Motion approved.

### Old Business:

- a. Annual Flu & Pneumonia Clinic. Topic tabled.
- b. Fiscal Budget 2022/2023 update. F. Minor reviewed the draft budget which was submitted

to the Board of Selectmen. The draft document clearly identified the rationale behind our changes to individual line items and the increase request in staffing hours. The Board of Selectmen will set the wage adjustments for all part-time, full-time and salaried employees. We have been informed that the Bd. Of Selectmen will be reviewing our budget request on Thursday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>. M.L. Jensen and F. Minor will represent the Senior Affairs Committee at that meeting. M. Fishbone made a motion to accept the Fiscal Year 2022/2023 Budget as presented. Motion seconded by M.L. Jensen. Motion approved.

**New Business/Other:**

a. Building Permit. F. Minor explained that she has submitted the application for a Building Permit which will address the senior center kitchen upgrade. Proof of license and insurance have been submitted for both the plumber and carpenter. After the permit is in hand, we will authorize the start of the project. Uncas Health District will no longer site our center as not being in compliance for having inadequate plumbing fixtures (three-bay sinks and separate hand washing sink). Funding for this project will be submitted to Line Item 74-4400-4400-5610 -Senior Center Repairs and Supplies.

**Public Comment:** No public participation.

A motion to adjourn was made at 1:34 p.m. by M. Fishbone. E. Bassette seconded the motion. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted by,

Frances Minor