



**COUNCIL ON AGING  
MEETING MINUTES  
MIDDLEFIELD TOWN HALL  
2022-02-02**

**Members:** Chair Judith Hoag, Director Lois Leonardo-Bell, Patricia R. Jones, Crystal Main, Marilyn R. Miller, Marge Pierre and Noreen P. Suriner. **Guests:** Curt Robie & Barbara A. Miller  
**Regrets:** Treasurer Laura Lafreniere, Sharon Barry and Char Gero.  
Meeting began at 1:00.

- Doreen Black completed her 8 week Tai Chi class. Doreen is interested in running an outdoor class in the spring. Tapes are available at the library.
- Several exercise classes were discussed, either from You Tube or web sites. These will be looked into and discussed further.
- MMCA is sponsoring a walking class in the spring. Prizes will be awarded. Miles will be recorded online. Lois will enter your data if needed. Suggestion to form a group to meet at senior center to begin walking was discussed.
- Two large boxes of Covid test kits were delivered to the senior center from Hilltown Community. Tests have been dispersed. More are available at the senior center as needed.
- Berkshire Spring, our current drinking water supplier does not have a driver for our area. Other water companies will have to be researched.
- Lifelines: Lifeline charges were discussed. On company charges \$95 for three months with service fee of \$15. Lee audio offers services at \$28 monthly at a cost of \$479 yearly. Noreen will check if group options are available.
- Golden Cane Award: Tony DiVecchi was informed that he was voted to become the next golden cane recipient. He told Noreen that he would prefer a small gathering.
- Highland Valley Elder Services is asking for a contribution. They will be invited to a COA meeting to talk about what services they offer.
- Sand delivery and blood pressure clinics: The MFD fire department is offering to deliver sand to seniors in need and to conduct a blood pressure clinic at the senior center. Fliers will be made up to find out the need for these services. Judy will talk to Crystal Krusynski about these programs.
- Transportation: It's proven difficult to find drivers to help people shop and bring them to their medical appointments. Drivers have their mileage reimbursed and are given a \$5 stipend each way from Pittsfield. Due to the price of gas, the time involved and physical challenges that can occur at some homes, it can be very challenging for some of our seniors.
- Senior Center Building Maintenance: Curt Robie informed the COA that the building inspection was completed. The house doctor is preparing an estimate to be discussed at a Selectboard meeting. A special town meeting will be scheduled to inform the residents of these costs. The COA were asked to make a list of the pros and cons of keeping the building open.
- Census: Middlefield's 5 zip codes misrepresents our population concerning income, making us ineligible for grants, inaccurate Covid case counts, our safety is compromised and deliveries, no explanation needed. Curt will speak to a census contact that he has about the situation.
- Motion made and seconded to adjourn at 2:55.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne C. Lemieux