

RECEIVED
DEC 22 2021

TOWN OF AYER
TOWN CLERK

1:27pm
CT

Ayer COA Board Monthly Meeting

Held Tuesday, July 21, 2021 at 10:00 a.m.

COA Center, 18 Pond Street, Ayer MA 01432

Minutes compiled by Janine Nichipor, COA Board Member/Clerk

In Attendance:

Carolyn McCreary, Chairperson

Janine Nichipor, Clerk

Carole Tillis, Board Member

Sister Paula McCrea, Board Member

Carly Antonellis, Assistant to the Town Manager

Kevin Johnston, Town of Ayer HR

Agenda:

1. Call to Order
2. Update on Dispatch/Van Service
3. Other Discussion
4. Executive Session to Review Applicants for COA Director

1. Open Session, Meeting called to order at 10:11 a.m.

This will be a brief open session to be followed by a closed Executive Session.

2. Update on the proposed dispatcher service.

- Proposed new van dispatch would be from a central location; bus dispatched from there. Local trips Sam can still do. For other trips can "piggyback" with other towns: Bolton, Sterling, Lancaster, Shirley and more.
- K.J. pointed out it could be a boost to rides and services
- C.M. said that perhaps there would be more rides to the hospital when others are going there.
- C.A. informed us that the software would generate valuable reports.
- K.J. Regarding resources and technology: the van driver is an employee of the Town of Ayer, but dispatched by MART.
- C.A. added that Leominster, Athol, Fitchburg and Gardner now all use MART dispatcher.
- C.A. said that we could start the central dispatch after we get our new COA Director. We can rent larger buses, with driver, for trips.
- K.J. wants to implement and keep us informed. Registration process will have rider information in the system.

3. Other Discussion

- J.N. paused meeting to request more ventilation in the room.
- C.M. Brought up the question of if COA Board members can work for the town for the Senior Work Off Program.
- J.N. asked if there is any conflict in COA Board working in Town, as long as it is not Board Member duties, which would appear to be a conflict to the rules of the Senior Work Off Program.

- C.A. said she would check into the rules for the Program.
- K.J. mentioned that if two from the same household work on the Senior Work Off Program, their hours would be tallied together toward one maximum benefit.
- C.M. was interested in getting going ASAP on this program.
- C.A. asked regarding Sam's hours and duties. He is currently the one returning dispatch calls.

4. Executive Session

- Confidential discussion reviewing the 23 applicants for the COA Director position.
- Each COA Board member, Ayer HR Director Kevin Johnston, and Assistant Town Manager Carly Antonellis gave input from their review of the credentials of each applicant.
- Meeting resulted in five applicants recommended for interview at times to be arranged.

Meeting Adjourned at 11:19 a.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Carolyn McBeary". The signature is written in dark ink and is located in the lower right quadrant of the page.