

Minutes: Thursday, April 28, 2022

Monterey Community Center Committee

Meeting commenced 10:10 am

Present: Laurie Shaw, Chairperson, Mary Makuc, Coordinator, Wendy Jensen, Roz Halberstader, JoAnn Bell, Dennis and Elaine Lynch, Catherine Hurst. Kyle Pierce and Wendy Germain present via Zoom.

Guest: Libby Wolf

Next Meeting Date: **Thursday, May 12, 2022, 10:00 am at the MCC**

-Minutes were approved for the March 17 meeting.

Past and Ongoing Programs:

-Meditation: Sandrine Harris' program on Fridays had low enrollment

-Tai Chi: the numbers are down right now so it's good that there are funds from COA to help cover the costs. David requires \$75/week. Participants pay \$30/month. There will continue to be a charge for Tai Chi throughout the summer as the monies from COA go through April. There was some questions last month how to incorporate beginners with those more experienced. David will figure that out so there doesn't have to be two separate sessions.

-Alanon continues to meet here and pays \$20/month. There was some discussion what we are charging for rentals.

-Gentle Yoga has 7-8 folks. James wondered about using the CC for meeting privately with some students. It was suggested that he have the private sessions at the clients home.

-Connie's Yoga will be coming back to the CC in June. Her program is paid for by Parks & Rec.

-No Pitch at this time.

-No Bridge at this time but they hope to resume.

-Mahjong is happening on Tuesdays

-Recap of Dignity Talk (although not a CC program): 29 folks at library, 46 registered via Zoom. Lauren Berhman will be working on a follow up to this event.

-Town Departments meeting at the CC: Bylaw Committee, Energy Committee and the Planning Board.

-Mary is working on getting a Birding program possibly in May with Joe Baker and Bonner.

-Roberta Epstein, a social worker, is working on support groups: Diabetes, Bereavement, etc. A suggestion of getting the Public Health Nurse to help with a program.

-Elder Estate Law should be happening on June 9 with Paula Almgren.

-Mushroom walks: There is money from the Cultural Council to help pay for a mushroom walk. JoAnn Bell is working on this. John Wheeler or Tom Ryan are possible workshop leaders.

-Coffeeshouses: There are still Cultural Council funds to be used for coffeeshouses that didn't happen during Covid. Elaine and Wendy Jensen will look into getting Eric Martin to possibly perform in June on a Sunday afternoon, under the tent.

-Painting Class: Margaret will hopefully be coming back to teach in July. Mary also spoke with Ann Getsinger about a plein air painting workshop.

-Jamie McDermott is a fitness trainer and may be interested in doing a workshop/talk on posture. Mary will talk to her in June. Cost will be \$5/person.

-Garfield beach yoga with Denise Carnese may be repeated this summer. Parks and rec will be handling this. --

--Nancy Monk may be interested in using the CC for a reiki yoga training program, June 11 from 10-4.

-Libby Wolf spoke to the committee about the plans of the Native Plants and Pollinators group. They are hoping to have 4 events through the summer. June 11, July 10, Aug. 8 and Sept. 11. They are hoping to have 2

hour sessions where there will be a speaker for the first half and then there will be a outdoor working session for the second hour. July 10 will be a tag sale to raise funds for the group. The group is working on education and publicity for native plants. Any plantings done on the CC grounds would be maintained by the group. Catherine offered suggestions to make some of the plantings “child friendly” by making small spaces where children might enjoy playing.

- Connie Wilson mentioned to Mary a group in North Adams that is donating used bicycles to Africa and they may like to give a talk about their project at the CC.

Other Business:

-Wendy Jensen and Libby Wolf are looking for planters to go on either side of the door. They will purchase pots and by plants to fill them.

-Event sign: The committee has decided to purchase a sandwich board/event sign where letters can be changed to suit the event. This sign would be placed near the road when events are happening at the CC. The cost of the sign will be about \$100-200. Mary will make the purchase.

-Lighting: Since there were no responses to our RFP for the CC lighting project, Mary, Laurie, Rob Hoogs and Wendy Jensen met to discuss our path forward. We will seek an engineered plan from an electrician which will cost some money. Mary and Rob will talk with Melissa and Jim Hunt to see how much the town DPW could help out with the digging and post setting.

-Mary wondered if there was any interest in taking part in the Memorial Day parade as a committee for the CC. She originally spoke about a float but later group discussions talked about walking in the parade, for those that can, and wearing sandwich boards decorated with various programs that the CC sponsors. Examples that were discussed were: Invasive plants, dignity, Community Garden, music, yoga, Darn Yarners, etc. We will meet in 2 weeks to discuss this further. Wendy J will look into the cost for a banner to hold in the parade.

-Laurie finished Mary’s job evaluation by consolidating all of the committee’s suggestions/comments. Mary will sign it and Laurie will give it to the town.

Meeting Adjourned: 12 noon

Respectfully submitted by Wendy G. Jensen