

## **Minutes: Thursday, May 13, 2021**

### **Monterey Community Center Committee**

Meeting commenced: 10:05 am outside of the Community Center

**Present:** Laurie Shaw, Mary Makuc, Wendy Jensen, JoAnn Bell, Dennis and Elaine Lynch, Laura Rodriguez, Roz Halberstader. Wendy Germain and Kyle Pierce joined remotely.

Mary noted that when the state of MA is out of emergency status we will have to follow a procedure to have people remote at meetings: Unless something else changes, we will meet in person with a quorum present, then vote if we want to allow remote. If a majority votes to allow remote attendance, we can then welcome the remote members.

Next Meeting Date: **Thursday, June 10, 2021 at the Community Center**

-Minutes were approved for April 8, 2021 meeting.

#### **Review of Past Programs**

-Balance review continues

-Ping Pong: 2-3 people attending but they are expecting more to join. As of now, they are meeting on Saturdays from 2-4 and they (Dennis Lynch speaking) are wondering about adding another evening. The group would like to be in the tent. Dennis will check with the others. Masks are still being worn inside.

-May 4: Biodiversity and native plant talk by Bridghe McCracken was well attended. Participants commented that it was an excellent program. There is also going to be a native plant garden box in the community garden. 26 people attended.

-Connie is filming her yoga class here at the Community Center.

#### **Current and Upcoming Programs**

-Chair Yoga with Connie

-May 26: Elder Law via Zoom at 1pm as well as in person. Mary will get tech help for this program.

-June 6: Vicki McDonald will lead an all occasion card making workshop for ages 10 and up. They will be under the tent. Cost is \$10/participant.

-June 12: Jill Esterson will give a talk on exercise and Bone strength at 1pm. There was some discussion about changing the time as the second part of the Town Meeting will be that morning.

-June 27: Pops Peterson will show his video under the tent. It is free to participants. \$500 is coming from the FWMH and \$250 from the Cultural Council for this program.

-June: Tai Chi with David Crowe begins for 5 Wednesdays in June at 10am. David Crowe charges \$50 for each session. The Council on Aging will cover the costs for June. For July funds, possibly FWMH or private pay (suggested \$5/person). For August funds it was suggested to have private pay.

-July 2: There is a private party at the MCC. 40 people in the afternoon or evening. They may want an alcohol permit so Mary will send them to Melissa for instructions.

-There is interest in a zoom genealogy program by Bryna O'Sullivan from CT. Laurie brought this to the group's attention and checked in with Bryna. She charges \$200/session. There could be three sessions: Family Search, Working with Vital Records (Birth) and using the Census. There was discussion about how this could be paid for. Maybe FWMH could help as well as COA. Laurie will ask her if she is willing to teach 3 sessions for \$400.

-There was discussion about a potential program, Meditation and Mindfulness with Sandrine Harris from New Marlborough. She is internationally known and the group thought it was worth looking into. Elaine Lynch will contact Connie Wilson to get her opinion and to see if some of her yoga folks might be interested. Mary will contact Sandrine for more information.

-Laura R. reported on the potential Beach yoga program at Lake Garfield. She has reached out to folks and suggested once a week for July and August on Wednesdays at 5:45. She spoke with an instructor who would like to make \$100/class. Maybe folks can pay what they can and the remainder might come from Parks and Rec? Laura has reached out to the Parks Dept but has no response so far. There was discussion about establishing a rain location which could be the tent at the MCC.

-Wendy J discussed the idea of an outdoor concert over the summer. She will meet with Joe Baker about the feasibility of this in the field. There was discussion about when the concert should happen. A suggestion of late afternoon in late July or August.

-Dennis discussed the possibility of streaming some programs from OLLI, museums, maybe even movies. He will continue to check on this.

-Roz discussed a possible program for growing mushrooms on the wood chips that have been left from the tree cutting. She will talk to Janet Jensen.

-Kevin West is still considering offering a program.

-Liz Mashmeyer is considering a program on fermenting.

-Roz suggested a performance by a 4 part harmony group. Roz and Kyle will look into this.

### **Other Business:**

-Wendy J wondered about getting two picnic tables for the MCC to encourage people to use the property outside. Mary will talk to Shawn about this. The MCC may have some funds remaining at the end of the fiscal year.

-Cleaning of the MCC: Mary is continuing to look for someone to take this job. She has a couple of people as possibilities, one may even volunteer.

-What are the next steps for the MCC lighting now that the town approved the funds? Mary will talk to Rob about the next steps and helping with a RFP.

-There was discussion about the sign at the road for the MCC. Mary wanted to know if we should change the sign to one of the burgundy town signs or keep the white sign that Joe Baker made. There are concerns about visibility of the sign. Wendy J offered to paint the existing sign. There needs to be more light on the sign. Dennis has sent the group information about a solar light. Mary will send this information to Melissa. It was decided to keep just Joe Baker's white sign for now.

-Mary brought up the discussion about diversity and inclusion within the Committee. There was much discussion about how this could be accomplished. One idea was to change the MCC's mission statement to include this. As the discussion was lengthy Laurie suggested we maybe put together a subcommittee as this is a larger topic that may be too much for our regular meetings. Mary would like to see more done and will send out an email to get a subcommittee together to discuss it.

-Mary spoke about the loss of the bees and equipment at the MCC but no one has come forward to continue. It was suggested that maybe the native plant folks might like to consider boxes for some of our native bees. Wendy J will contact Janet Jensen about that.

Meeting adjourned: 11:45 am

Respectfully submitted by: Wendy Jensen