

ECOIA Board Meeting Minutes
February 19, 2021
8:30am

Present: Rosemary Cunningham, Marvene O'Rourke, Heidi Boyd, John Dropick, Nancy Ignacio, Jay Sigler, Steven Miller and Janice Belisle, Treasurer of the Friends of the ECOIA; Administrator Lyndsay Famariss.

The meeting was called to order by Board Chair Rosemary Cunningham at 8:30 am.

Approval of the Minutes

Rosemary asked if there were any amendments, questions or additions to the proposed minutes of January 15, 2021 minutes – Upon motion by John Dropick that was seconded by Marvene O'Rourke, the minutes were accepted unanimously.

The Board discussed the COVID-19 vaccine rollout on the Island and how the ECOIA is assisting the older adult community in Edgartown.

Budget:

Lyndsay reported on the YTD budget and asked if there were any questions or comments, to which the Board answered that there were not.

Administrator's report:

Lyndsay updated the Board on the ECOIA's role in the vaccine rollout and the improvement in the communication from MVH to our agency and the community. She shared that a good deal of time is still being spent helping those residents who have questions and/or special circumstances around the vaccine. MVH is working with the ECOIA to address these residents with special needs, and we've found them to be responsive.

Lyndsay asked the Board to accept a check in the amount of \$56 from the Stop & Shop Community Bag Program. John Dropick made a motion to accept this check and Marvene O'Rourke seconded the motion. Rosemary announced that the check had been accepted by the Board.

Lyndsay asked the Board to accept a check from the Friends of the ECOIA in the amount of \$5000 to the ECOIA Special Account. John Dropick made a motion to accept the check and Marvene O'Rourke seconded the motion. Rosemary confirmed the check's acceptance by the Board.

Lyndsay reported that the ECOIA conducted a food survey with the meal delivery participants, and some food insecurity issues were brought to our attention and addressed. Staff will begin to distribute the \$50 grocery gift cards made possible by the

MV Community Foundation and \$200 to pay for five annual VTA bus passes for residents in need.

Lyndsay spoke about the need for Board members to complete the training on the Conflict of Interest Laws and to send their forms confirming they completed the training to Lyndsay. She also asked members to read, familiarize themselves with and sign the Open Meeting Law forms and send them to her ECOA email address or drop them off in person.

Lyndsay reported that the new Comcast phone system will be installed on March 8, 9, 10, but she warned that the cost of phone services might increase as a result.

The Board discussed a request by June Schoppe and the MV Art Association to rent the ECOA lawn for the evening of July 17, 2021 for an event they are sponsoring from 5-7/8pm. Lyndsay will provide an update as more information becomes available.

Outreach Report:

Victoria Haeselbarth reported that her efforts have been focused on the vaccine rollout. She shared that she and Katie have called over 200 people and helped those who are not computer savvy or connected to Patient Gateway.

She pointed out that these calls have exposed other needs of some older adults, including fuel and utility assistance, which our Outreach workers have been able to help with the traditional resources and the addition of a COVID utility support fund that the MV Center for Living is managing.

Katie Vieira joined the meeting and shared details about the meals program. She shared that some recipient of our programs have now stepped up to become volunteers in the delivery of our meals. Katie has been working to update our snow shoveling and plowing lists. She reported that the numbers of deliveries we've been making has decreased a bit, and she credits this change with people's improving comfort with getting out more in the community.

Katie shared the details of a food survey that she developed to gauge the needs of the older adults who are using our meals program. She revealed that some respondents had indicated some food insecurity, and she and Victoria have been able to connect them with additional resources.

Director of Senior Services Report:

Meris shared that the tax prep program has been very popular, and that we will be able to take some people from the wait list. John Dropick shared that the IRS opened electronic filing late this year- on Feb 12. He also stated that they are helping people at other COAs and they have received a great response.

Meris gave an update on the Valentine's cookies that Janice Belisle, Mary Gentle and Carolyn O'Daly baked for our staff and volunteers to distribute to 150 residents. Meris shared that the Edgartown Library joined with us to pass along numerous Valentine's cards that children made for older adults. Also included in the Valentine's deliveries was

the remaining gift bags from the Edgartown Fire Department, which included a reusable face mask, hand sanitizer and wipes.

She asked if any Board members have an interest in making some of these special deliveries to please let her know.

She reported that the snow shoveling program through the Scouts is still active.

Adele Dryer will be giving a piano performance today via Zoom at 1pm.

Meris urged the Board to join in the Zoom book talk on February 26 when Carolyn O'Daly will talk about her book, "Deep Thoughts from a Shallow Mind".

Friends of the ECOA Report:

Janice reported that she doesn't have anything in particular to report, other than to say that there have been generous donations coming in for the food program and that she is happy to be of service.

New Business:

Rosemary asked if there were any new business, to which John Dropick answered that our staff should consider asking the Edgartown Fire Association for help with fuel assistance if we learn of an older adult in need of immediate support. Andy Kelley is the President of the Association and he would be a good contact should we need him. Janice added that the Friends can also help in this area, should a need arise.

Rosemary Cunningham shared that she finds it to be an honor to chair this group and to work with one another. She adjourned the meeting at 9:29 am.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 19, 2021 at 8:30am.