

Town of Cape Elizabeth
Community Services Committee
Meeting Minutes
3/12/25

Attending: Andrea Ernst (AE), Debbie Grew (DG), Jill Palmore (JP), Megan Rogers (MR1), and Christine Syska (CS)

Absent: Becky Bryant and Megan Roy

Meeting opened at 5:32 pm - Kathy Raftice

Public Comment & Correspondence - None

Approval of draft minutes from January 8, 2025

Motion by CS to approve minutes, second by DG. Motion passed (5 – Yes, 0 – No).

CECS Updates

KR reminded committee that registration for Spring/Summer Adult programming opens on Sunday, March 30 @ 8:00 pm. Youth summer registration opens on Sunday, April 6 @ 8:00 pm. She shared that the CEPD was offering a Movie Night on Saturday, March 22 @ 6:00 pm in the Pond Cove cafetorium. A reminder that the Cape Challenge will take place on May 18 and there will be road closures. Those will be posted on town website. KR brought committee up to date on the town changing to .gov for a more secure website and emails.

Youth – Susan Frost & Dana Hatton

Basketball has wrapped up and we move right into lacrosse. KR shared some of the new programs offered – Get Hooked (Fishing), which will be in conjunction with the PD and Rod & Gun club. Additionally there is a new jewelry class. Some of the new summer camps are; Flamenco Dancing, Day Spa's, Donald Tubbs Junior Police Academy, and Archery & Wilderness skills. These are along with our tried and true Musical Theater, Basketball, Baseball, Soccer and our Summer Adventure camps, so lots of options.

Adults – Linda Strunk

Passport processing began on Feb 4 and KR was happy to share that we have processed 54. She explained the research done by Linda through Scarborough Community Services and that she had budgeted for 300 next FY. We are on track! Some of the new offerings for adults; Soap from Scratch, Make your own Lotion, Wire Wrapped Rings, Outdoor Art, Muse Sketching and a Decluttering class. Linda is always

looking for suggestions so please feel free to reach out to her. KR explained that the bands for Sounds by the Sea are almost complete and then posted.

Seniors/Marketing – Jane Anderson

Jane met with her cohorts from surrounding towns to brainstorm trip ideas. She will be offering a trip to the Red Sox. It is an early afternoon game and each town will have 15 seats on the Custom Coach bus. Jane has been creative in her trip offerings for the spring and summer. Some of the new offerings are Hampton Beach Sand Sculpting, Candle Making, the ever-popular Ogunquit Playhouse, Cabbage Island and a couple museum trips! She also has quite a few free options this time and her free monthly chair yoga will continue. Some of the other free options; Game Day Mondays, Learn to play Dominoes, Build Better Balance, Healthy Hearts, Healthy Lives, and the ABC's of Medicare.

Pool & Fitness – Andrew Kemp

KR shared with the committee that the Special Olympics would be hosting an event at the pool on April 4, 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. The high school swim season has ended and now we have the middle school season. This is a much shorter season. Our very successful Cyclones swim team, which KR explained is a step above swim lessons and a little below a competitive swim team, begins on April 1st. We have 33 swimmers registered and Andrew is scheduling a meet with the similar program offered in South Portland.

Cape Care – Kelly Phinney

Another successful Pleasant Mountain program has ended. It was a challenge because all of our snow days were on Thursdays. KR revisited the bad weather policy so the committee understands if asked. KR covered the Cape Care registration timeline. Registration has opened and will close on March 21. If needed the lottery will be completed on March 24 and then all notifications will be sent. A couple things for us to consider this year are twins and triplets. If a lottery drawing takes place, we need to be comfortable with a few different scenarios. Kelly and Kathy conducting research. AE explained how it has worked in South Portland. She will get the contact of someone there we can talk with.

Fort Williams/PHL Update

KR brought committee up to date on staffing for the coming season. She also provided a reminder that we will be hosting our x-country meet on Wednesday, May 21. We have a new food vendor (C-Salt) replacing Cousins. Dom Walker, Fort Williams Visitor Supervisor is putting together some Ranger Walk & Talk information, more to come.

KR provided reminders on HS Graduation – June 1 – moved to the Green, Family Fun Day June 7 and Sounds by the Sea begin on July 7.

PHL – the bell is still in repair. The installation of the new windows will begin in April. KR shared the Assistant Gift Shop/Museum position is open and we are always looking for additional volunteers. Cape Elizabeth resident open lighthouse day is Sunday, May 18 and tickets will be available beginning on Monday, May 12.

Meeting adjourned at 6:44 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kathy Raftice