

Leyden Council on Aging
Minutes of Meeting
March 2, 2021

BlueJeans

[GILDA GALVIS](#)

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Meeting ID: 466 732 7733
Participant Passcode: 5083

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 4:46.

Present: Linda Baker, Kathy Fritz, Gilda Galvis, Sue Howarth, Michèle Higgins, Linda Allis.

Absent: Robbie Milner, Andrea Zimmerman,

Guests: ø

Minutes: Kathy moved to accept. Sue seconded as amended. All approved. The minutes were accepted.

Budget: Gilda reported that while the State money has come in at \$6,000 for the year, it hasn't been verified by the Town Accountant. We noted that it is difficult to get clear information from the accountant. We have approximately \$2900 in our Town account.

The Selectboard has requested that each department submit its budget request for Fiscal Year 2022; Gilda has requested \$4,000 which is our usual request. We do not know at this time if we are going to have to appear before the Board with the request or if submitting the paperwork is sufficient.

Meals: Our first drive-through lunch will be on the 12th from 12:00 - 12:30. It will be shepherd's pie from Foster's; dessert is as yet unknown. Foster's will prepare four portions without corn. Dan will put the information on the electronic sign. Linda Baker will make the little slips to put in the bags. We do not need to be at Town Hall any earlier than 11:30.

The drive-through for March 26 will come from Village Pizza. Gilda will call to make arrangements and will ask for roast beef and cold cut grinders for 60.

Gilda suggested chicken pot pie from Brad's place for the first drive-through in April (the 9th). Asking now gives us plenty of time to make other arrangements in case they cannot prepare them for us. We will decide at our April meeting what we will do for the second drive-through for April.

Old Business:

Zoom brainstorming: Sue asked Linda A. if she could do an exercise class on "Getting Ready to Walk" to prepare people after the winter to resume walking.

Linda A. can but suggested that we ask Hayley from the Bernardston COA if we could join them during their class which is from 9:30 - 10:15 daily. They are already set up for zoom exercise class, and it might be easier. Sue will call Hayley to inquire. In case there might be a fee, Kathy made a motion to contribute \$50 to the Bernardston COA for Leyden to join in on their zoom exercise class if need be. Sue seconded. All approved.

We also talked about zoom gardening programs Sue will talk to one of the gardeners at the Greenfield Farmers' Coop to see if anyone there could do a zoom class for us. Sue will also call Holly Spatcher about a gardening zoom class. Linda A. will contact Tom Ashley from Dancing Bear Farm to see if he might be interested in being a presenter.

The Bernardston COA survey:

Leyden Life did not answer Michèle's request to publish the Bernardston COA survey until three days before the publication deadline. In the meantime, Beth Kuzdeba called Sue to let her know that she was going to mail that survey out to Leyden residents. Leyden residents were instructed to put their completed surveys in the COA box outside of the Town Offices. Gilda received some of them in our box inside before putting them in the Board of Health box. In looking at the few that Gilda did receive, very few of them mentioned food insecurity as a major concern.

This reaffirmed our conviction in what we have been saying all along - that food insecurity is not the major issue in Leyden as it is in other places with much larger populations even though we feel pressure about this issue.

Michèle pointed to recent survey results published in The Recorder (Feb. 20, 2021) from LifePath regarding concerns of senior citizens in the county in which the four top categories of concerns did not mention food insecurity. Those top four concerns were: maintaining independence, housing issues, healthcare concerns and isolation. The LifePath survey was completed by 240 respondents.

Gilda also reported that John Higgins has informed the Selectboard that the telephone in the kitchen at Town Hall still does not work. She also said that it appears that Jeff

Neipp would like for the Board of Health to open Town Hall to us but pointed out that it is still a Board of Health issue.

Kathy made a motion to adjourn at 5:16. Sue seconded. All approved.

Our next meeting is scheduled for **Tuesday, April 6, 2021, at 4:30 at this Blue Jeans address.** (Gilda will resend it.)

Respectfully submitted,

Michèle Higgins, Secretary/Chair