

## **Weston COA Governance Committee Meeting Minutes, Tuesday, April 11, 2023**

The meeting was called to order at 9:01am by Chair, Joan Heilbronner.

**Present:** Sue Ruskin Friend, Joan Heilbronner, Linda Johnson, Tom Nicholson, Prather Palmer and Joan Ingersoll (ex officio)

**Resident Concerns and Comments:** None.

**Minutes of the March 14 Meeting** were approved unanimously.

### **Director's Report**

The first few weeks have been busy, and Joan has been meeting with many individuals, committees, and groups in town. She plans to have monthly 1:1 regular meetings with each staff member. She will meet with Chris Fitzgerald of the Recreation Department monthly, has joined the Celebrate Weston Committee and met with the Friends twice. She has had opportunities to tour Brook School, ride on the van for grocery shopping and visit Merriam Village, Stonegate, and Maplewood. A tour of Land's Sake is pending. She and Audrey have hired a new driver for Fridays and plan to coordinate transportation with Maplewood. Joan found that drivers were due a higher rate of pay which is being implemented. Transportation continues to be at the top of her agenda. There is a plan for the social workers to lead more support groups themselves. Joan is developing FY 24 COA goals and ensuring that individual staff members' goals support COA goals. Joan has been very impressed with what a capable, competent, and high performing staff there is at the COA.

### **UPC Designee Appointment Update**

A motion to recommend to the Board the approval of Danielle Salvucci Black as the COA designee on the UPC was unanimously approved.

Danielle has an impressive resume of volunteer work in town. Danielle is keen to learn all about the needs and priorities of the COA.

### **Recruitment Update**

There are currently 6 candidates for Board positions. Linda and Joan will start interviewing applicants soon. We are looking for new board members

with experience in strategic planning, working with town government, marketing, and who have an interest in leadership. It would be helpful to have new members who do not spend much of the year away and can attend meetings in person.

### **Officer's Slate Discussion**

Linda is willing to continue on as Chair for a second term, and Joan is willing to continue as Vice Chair. As per Policy and Procedures, 2 year terms as officers are allowed. There was discussion that 2 year terms might be preferable; this used to be the norm in the past. Prather has agreed to continue as Treasurer; this position has no term limit. A vote was taken to recommend this officer slate to the Board at the April meeting which passed unanimously. Other nominations may be made by the Board prior to its May meeting when the slate will be presented for approval.

### **Other Business**

The Open Meeting Law as revised under Covid rules has been extended to allow remote meetings through March 31, 2025. If the meeting is hybrid or only on Zoom all votes must be made by roll call.

The Board of the Friends of the COA is down to only 4 members, and their treasurer is stepping down. The new treasurer should have finance and tax experience. Holly and the FCOA Board have agreed to extend her term as President for one more year. Upon expiration of her second term on the COA Board on June 30, Betsey will join the Friends Board. She will give the Liaison Report at the next Board Meeting. There is keen interest to have a joint board retreat and include the staff.

### **Next meeting on May 9, 2023 at 9am**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57.

*Respectfully submitted by Sue Ruskin Friend*