

SENIOR TAX RELIEF COMMITTEE
June 15, 2022

Attending: Pauline DiCesare, Joel Rosenhaus, Susan Rufo, Anne Gilbert, and Julie Secord (COA Director).

Absent: Markey Burke, Joan Bradford and Steve Colella.

The meeting was called to order by Anne Gilbert at 10:05 AM. The minutes of the February 9, 2022 meeting of the committee were approved as written. There was not a meeting on April 13, 2022 as scheduled because there was not a quorum of members in attendance. We were told that Steve Colella, the vice-chair and longtime member of our committee, has resigned due to health issues. The Select Committee has been notified that we will need a new member for our committee.

There was no public comment.

We still do not have Anne Gilbert and Susan Rufo on the town email. They will work on getting on the site before the next meeting.

Julie told us that the tax work-off program is set for this calendar year. The next program will begin on January 1, 2023 and go until November 30, 2023. The program is being changed from fiscal year to calendar year for accounting purposes. The COA matches the worker to the department, and the finances are done by others. Julie has recommended that we have Rob Leroux of the Assessor's office come and talk to our group about how the finances of this program are handled as they change from fiscal year to calendar year accounting. We also want to ask him if some information could be put on Waycam to let people know what tax relief programs are available for seniors. The COA has good information available for seniors, but something on Waycam could be helpful.

Since Steve Colella will be off of our committee at the end of June, we needed to elect a new Vice-chair. Joel Rosenhaus was nominated for the position and was unanimously elected.

Another topic that came up is where things stand on the state program for deferred property taxes. Right now, an approved person pays interest to the town for deferred taxes, and then the interest rate goes to 16% upon the death of the person. MCOA was looking into this issue to try and allow more time before the interest rate goes up. That is something we can also discuss with Rob Leroux.

The next meeting of our committee will be August 17, 2022 at 10:00 AM. Our meeting was adjourned at 11:05 AM

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Gilbert (Clerk)