

Town of Bolton C.O.A. Meeting
September 13, 2021

In-person meeting at the Bolton Town Common

Members Present: Panny Gerken, Chair; Barbara Brown, Tom Byron, Bonnie Jaffe, Shirley Sefton, Chuck McCormack, Corinne Mackie, Alice Roemer

COA Director Lisa D'Eon, Program Coordinator Heather Goodsell

Guest: none

The meeting opened at 10 AM.

The minutes from the July and August COA meetings were approved.

Lisa reported the financials. The State grant portion of the budget will be adjusted when we get a final number from the State. We will address the special \$20k item when we get it.

FOBS input: Sept. 21 will be a lunch or drive-thru. Oct. 13 is the annual FOBS meeting, followed by the annual appeal. Nov. 16 is the Thanksgiving drive-thru dinner. In the newsletter, a section about COA vs. FOBS questions answered will be written, encouraging readers to make donations to FOBS.

COA annual voting of member offices took place. Panny is chair. Alice is vice-chair. Shirley is treasurer. Tom is secretary.

Kudos to last week's bus trip, with 27 attendees. General Shirley kept everything running smoothly. However, the bus air conditioning failure on the return drive was a serious problem. The Christmas overnight trip is filling up nicely. Note: all trip participants must be vaccinated. Another trip will be planned for the spring.

Outreach report: Masks are not required at the Senior Center, but that policy is reviewed constantly as circumstances change. Revisiting the Bolton Buzz logo for the newsletter, the decision was quickly made to proceed, get an official drawing, and permissions. Art classes have been moved back to the Senior Center on Thursdays. On the 28th is a special "smart phone basics" class. A discussion on expanding BINGO, back at the Center, centered around Heather's Outreach notes. Flu shot clinic will be held soon. Attendance at the Center is picking up. Looking for an additional Van driver. The Van pilot program is progressing very slowly. Software is clumsy and requires double entries in old and new systems.

Last year the Thanksgiving drive-thru meal was a huge success, with 120 meals distributed. It was a "Giant Hug" to Bolton seniors in the pandemic. We will try to repeat it again this year. The Senior Holiday luncheon will return this year in early December. Planning is in progress. Lisa suggested that we look into getting a postage machine for the Senior Center since mailings have increased so much because of the pandemic, and will most likely continue.

Next COA meeting Oct. 12 on the Common.

The meeting adjourned at 11:20.

Respectfully submitted: Tom Byron

October COA Meeting
Outreach and Programs Minutes

Trips-

We have 25 signed up for the weekend away in Newport RI. I am now confirming reservations, taking deposits and looking to fill the remaining spots.

I have booked another day trip. On December 17th we will be heading to Honey Bee Orchards, Salem Cross Inn, Yankee Village and Bright Nights. See the attached flyer for all the details!

Other Items-

Newsletter deadline for the November newsletter is this Friday 10/15. I added the residents of Sunset Ridge to the mailing list last month. Since beginning to mail the newsletter to Ponside, I have seen an increase in involvement from them!

Fuel Assistance Season is upon us. Pam Powell has offered to put our donation write up as an insert in the annual census again this year. I gladly took her up on that offer! Last year, we began to cover a portion of an electric or gas bill if that was how a house was being heated. We will continue to do this again this year.

I have signed the Bolton COA up to have a booth on Trick-or-Treat Lane for the Parks and Recreation annual Halloween parade. It will be held on Saturday, October 30th. Set up is at 2. Parade starts at 3. Please let me know if you can be there to help represent the COA!

Lisa and I talked about honoring all of the volunteers that have really helped the COA and the seniors of Bolton through the last year and a half. I thought that giving them a nice small gift might be the best bet. I have reached out to a person I know that has hives and a honey company. He is willing to do ½ lb jars for \$3.70 each. When we have them, we would attach little cards that say something along the lines of "Thank you for BEE-ing such a great volunteer". Thoughts?

Jake Simopolos, the Constituent Services Director for Senator Cronin had offered to come to the Senior Center on the first Tuesday of every month for coffee and to hear from you! Although this is at the COA, anyone who wishes to meet Jake and chat with him is welcome to come.

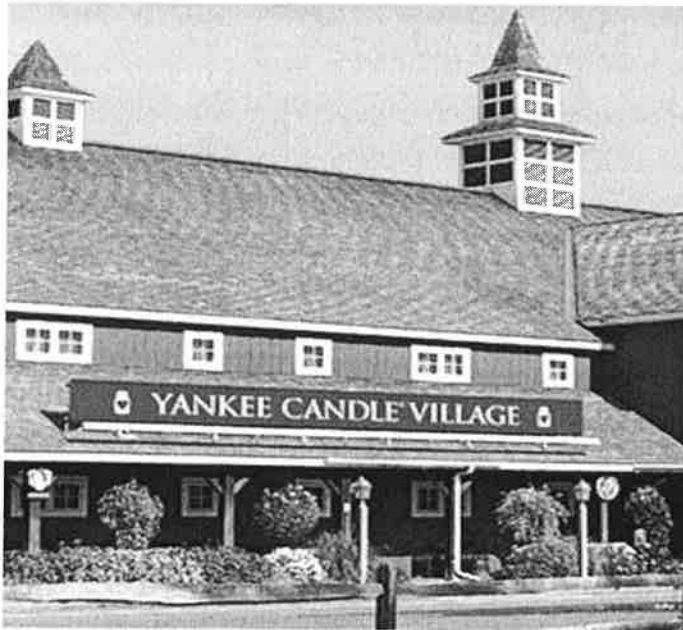
The Bolton COA Presents!
***A Salem Cross
Christmas***

December 17, 2021

*Featuring Christmas Music &
Outstanding Cuisine at Salem Cross Inn
& The Brilliant Bright Nights Lights*



9:00 AM Depart from the Trinity Church, 14 Wattaquaddock Hill Rd., Bolton and travel to West Brookfield, Massachusetts, where you'll visit The Honey Bee Orchards Gift Shop, where you can purchase pure unadulterated honey, along with homemade preserves and jellies. Now you'll visit the well renown and historic Salem Cross Inn for a delicious four course luncheon, featuring Soup du Jour, a Garden Salad, Salem Cross' famous flaky Chicken Pie or Maple Salmon and a Scrumptious Dessert. As you enjoy the holiday ambiance of the beautifully decorated Salem Cross Inn, you'll listen to the sounds of Christmas music. You will also enjoy a visit to the Yankee Candle Shop's elaborate Bavarian Christmas Village display in Deerfield. The time has come to head for the Bright Nights, New England's most distinctive display, where you'll wonder at the artistry of the lights. You'll arrive back home at approximately 7:00 PM after a delightful day enjoying the seasonal Christmas Spirit at Salem Cross & Bright Nights.



Tour Date:

December 17, 2021

Tour Cost: \$85.00 Per Person

<<>> Tour Includes <<>>

Honey Bee Orchards Visit

Delicious Four Course Salem Cross Luncheon

<Select Entrée: __Chicken Pie__Maple Salmon>

Yankee Candle Shop In Deerfield

Bright Nights at Forest Park

Luxury Silver Fox Motor Coach

Tour Contact: Heather Goodsell @

978.779.3314

Merry Christmas To All!!!