

Harvard Council on Aging
Board of Directors Meeting
January 10, 2011

Present: Sharon Briggs, Janice Goodell, Barbara Kemp, Connie Larrabee, Bill Mohn, Mike Peters, Carlene Phillips, Lucy Wallace, Ginger Quarles
Absent: Fran Nickerson

Call to order: 4: 05 p.m.

The minutes of the December board meeting were approved as submitted.

The treasurer's report was approved as submitted, although Bill and Ginger pointed out several unresolved account deficiencies. Ginger reported that she had recently received a \$1,000 check from a donor who wishes to remain anonymous, and who placed no restrictions on its use.

Old Business:

FY 2012-2017 Budget - In preparation for an upcoming meeting with the Finance Committee, the board discussed the FinCom's written comments and questions regarding the COA's budget proposal. The Fin Com raised no questions about the FY2012 budget, but there appears to be some confusion about what should appear in the required five-year plan. Ginger projected spending growth based partly on the assumption that an expanded senior center would become operational in the next five years; she will discuss her rationale with the FinCom when they meet.

New Business:

Board vacancies - Sharon announced that Janice Goodell's, Bill Mohn's and Barbara Kemp's terms will expire in June, and asked them to think about whether they want to continue. All three said they probably wouldn't be interested in another term.
Annual Report - Board members reviewed a draft of the COA Annual Report and offered a number of suggestions, including ways to convey the number of seniors using COA services. The board approved the report in concept, with the understanding that Carlene and Ginger will continue revising the document.
Senior Tax Work-off - Ginger reported that 23 people had applied for this program as of the deadline, compared with 8 applicants last year. She has contacted all town departments to see if they can come up with new jobs for the applicants and has had no response so far. Board members concurred that the COA should take the lead in creating tax work-off opportunities, including the possibility that one of the applicants could help Ginger interview other applicants to determine their skills and interests.

Municipal Buildings Committee - Lucy and Ginger reported that Selectman Bill Johnson is advocating that the old library be renovated for a senior center. Board

members discussed ways to more effectively make the case for the Hildreth House, and to spark a private fundraising effort. Among the suggestions was changing the name of the Friends of the Council on Aging to Friends of the Hildreth House. The Friends would be expected to take the lead in raising funds to help build a new senior center at Hildreth House.

Team Reports:

Public Relations/Messaging – Mike reported on the progress of the COA promotional video. Filming is almost complete and editing will begin soon. Mike hopes to have a first pass ready by the February board meeting, and thinks the video could be done by spring.

Director's Report:

Tai Chi – Ginger reported that she has 12 people interested in taking a new evening Tai Chi class on Thursdays from 6-7p.m. at the Unitarian Church Fellowship Hall. The class could begin in a couple of weeks.

Board training – the Harvard COA will offer to host a training session for new board members, possibly in April at Fruitlands.

Town calendars are for sale at Hildreth House for \$20 each; the COA will get \$4 for each calendar sold at this location.

The meeting adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Larrabee