

**Harvard Council on Aging**  
Board of Directors Meeting  
March 21, 2011

Present: Carlene Phillips, Janice Goodell, Connie Larrabee, Bill Mohn, Lucy Wallace,  
Mike Peters, Barbara Kemp, Ginger Quarles

Absent: Sharon Briggs, Fran Nickerson

Call to order: 4: 00 p.m.

The minutes of the February 14 board meeting were approved as corrected.

The treasurer's report was accepted with the understanding that some corrections will be made as soon as Bill has a chance to go over the figures with Ginger.

**Old Business**

Lucy, Carlene, and Connie will attend the training session for new board members on April 8 from 9:15 to 11:45 a.m. at the Groton Senior Center. Lucy agreed to call and register all three board members.

The selectmen have discussed the senior tax work-off problem again and decided to leave it up to Ginger to allocate the allotted \$10,000 among the 23 job applicants. Ginger thinks she'll have to come up with some job-sharing options, but will talk with Tim Bragan to clarify several questions. The board agreed that it's important to match people's skills with the available jobs as much as possible, and urged Ginger to recruit one of the applicants to help her screen candidates and coordinate the program.

The TGIS benefit dinner for Loaves and Fishes was a great success, and Ginger noted that many people attended who haven't come to COA events before. She also said that Pepsi was very generous in providing beverages, so now we have enough sodas for both the luau and the barbeque.

**New Business**

Ginger reported that there will probably be an article on the Town Meeting Warrant seeking approval for a home rule petition to create a property tax reduction program for seniors, based on a new program in Hamilton. The proposed program would be means-tested and tied to property values, and an estimated 40 households might qualify.

Board members agreed on the importance of getting senior citizens to Annual Town Meeting and to town elections. The COA will make sure that anyone who needs a ride either day will get one.

The Friends of the COA will underwrite the mailing of postcards promoting passage of Article 17 at Annual Town Meeting and Question 1 at town election. Lucy said

there are donors willing to pay for the mailing, so board members expressed no problem with it.

### **Team Reports**

Public Relations : COA video

Mike will film a segment on a home visit very soon and then work on editing with the Cable Committee. He said Jonathon Williams has been very helpful with the video, and that he expects to be finished before long.

Housing: Barbara reported that Harvard Conservation Trust Development is scheduled to meet at the end of March to talk about the Barba land.

Board members agreed to wrap up the discussion early so they could attend the LWV candidates night forum.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Larrabee