

MINUTES
COUNCIL ON AGING

MILLBURY, MASS.
16 FEB 19 PM 1:42
MILLBURY, MASS.

Date: January 20, 2016 at 1:00 PM

Present: Richard Townsend, Steve Walinsky, Edna LaPan, Marie Kosiba, Lee Ayotte, Kaye Peltier, Betty Hamilton, Stuart Mulhane and Judith O'Connor

Absent: Margaret Masmanian, Everett Grahn and Lorraine Hayes

Vouchers: Vouchers were signed at this meeting.

Minutes: A motion to accept the December minutes was made by Marie Kosiba. Seconded by Betty Hamilton. Vote: unanimous.

Correspondence

We received an e-mail from Doctor Express announcing their new Urgent care facility located at 117a Stafford St., Worcester, MA. They accept all major insurance plans and the cost is 1/5 that of an ER.

We received a flyer regarding the "Circuit Breaker" Tax Rebate for Senior Citizens. Ms. O'Connor stated that copies of the requirements are available for those interested in applying. This is part of the Free Tax program that Anna Lewandowski provides to the COA.

A letter was received from Heather Trudell, chairman of the Chain of Lights committee thanking Ms. O'Connor for helping to make it a huge success.

We received a letter from MCOA regarding the Formula Grant and that they have a campaign to raise the formula to \$12.00 per elder by 2020. The current rate is \$9.00 for each elder in our Town. We will need to contact our Senator and Representative regarding this matter.

We received 2 letters from Fallon Health explaining and looking for support of their programs. Summit Elder Care is an all-inclusive care for the elderly (PACE) and NivaCare that meets the needs of the elderly to remain their independents.

We received a letter from Town Planner Laurie Connors asking for someone from the Council on Aging to be part of the Master Plan Committee for the Town. After discussion it was decided that Ms. O'Connor should represent the COA at these meetings as she would know the future needs of the elderly.

Report of Standing Committee

- A. *Budget & Finance* – Mr. Townsend explained the COA budget and that it was given to the Town Manager on time. We will wait to hear from him.

- B. Personnel – Ms. O'Connor explained that one of the Jr. Clerks is now being paid 4 hours per week out of the formula grant. And when the new budget is approved by the Town Manager she will go from 15 hours to 19 hours. We are also going to discuss the Adm Asst position with him.
- C. Nominating – No report
- D. Legislative – Ms. O'Connor reported that there are no 9C cuts from the Governor Budget regarding Elder Service.
- E. Senior Center – Usage Committee- We received a request for the Mason's to use the facility on March 19th for their annual Blood Drive. A motion was made by Lee Ayotte to allow the Masons to have a Blood Drive at the Senior Center on March 19th from 7 AM to 4 PM. Seconded by Stuart Mulhane. Vote Unanimous.
- F. Building Maintenance/Equipment. – Ms. O'Connor stated that she has asked the custodian to work set hours at the Senior Center. They are Monday through Friday 1 PM to 5 PM.

Director's Report- Ms. O'Connor reported on the stats for all the activities. After discussion Mr. Walinsky asked if we could report the numbers (clients and family members) for the food pantry.

OLD BUSINESS

Elder Care Services/Nutrition Program- Ms. Peltier attended the monthly meeting and she reported on the I and R program, option counseling, Respite, and Federal Programs. Through these efforts the goal is to bring together aging and the disabled in a policy call "no wrong door" She also explained that Lou Swan Exec. Director of Elder Service was be retiring on Sept. 1st.

Intergenerational Programs. Friendly Visitor - Ms. O'Connor reported on the "Helping Hands" program. We have added several teens for this program.

Elder Service Work-off Program – We are still looking to add a couple more individuals to this program.

Report on the Friends of the Millbury Seniors, Inc. –The "Friends" Group will have to write 2 grants for the 2017 funding programs at DOT. One for a replacement vehicle (901) and one for \$10,000. Of Operational monies for the beyond ADA program. Ms. O'Connor explained that the Friends group has total funded this service with the assistance from the WRTA for over 30 years. The Town of Millbury has not funded any part of the transportation services for the elderly and disabled. Discussion followed with Mr. Walinsky concerned that the Town should be helping to defray the costs of this very important service. The Town should possibly provide the gas for the vehicles.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ms. O'Connor announced that the Millbury Sutton Chronicle has a new editor.

Vacation – Ms. O'Connor will be on vacation from Jan. 22nd to Feb. 2nd.

Dates to Remember: Feb. 11th Lion's Club Dinner for the Elderly; Feb. 15th Senior Center closed for Presidents Day; Feb. 23rd Hot Choc. Day sponsored by One Care of Millbury.

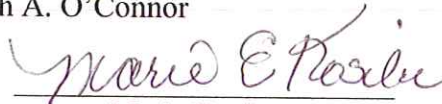
A motion to adjourn at 2:15 PM was made by Edna LaPan. Seconded by Marie Kosiba . Vote Unanimous.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 17, 2016 at 1:00 P.M.

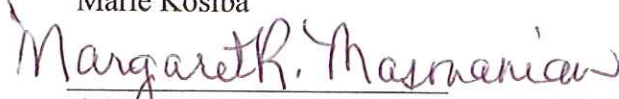
Respectfully submitted,
Judith A. O'Connor

Richard Townsend


Kaye Peltier



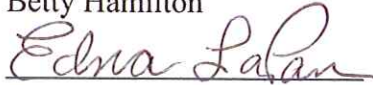
Marie Kosiba


Margaret Masmanian

Stuart Mulhane

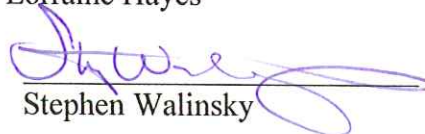
Everett Grahn

Betty Hamilton

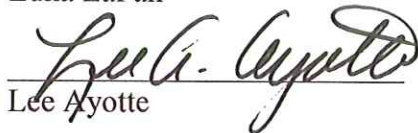


Edna LaPan

Lorraine Hayes



Stephen Walinsky


Lee Ayotte