

MINUTES
MILLBURY COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2018 MAY 22 AM 11:26

Date: April 18, 2018 at 7:30 AM

Present: Kaye Peltier, Lee Ayotte, Steve Walinsky, Kevin Higginbottom, Marie Kosiba, Stuart Mulhane, Richard Townsend, Sarabeth Persiani, Betty Hamilton, Joyce Ostrowski and COA Executive Director Judith O'Connor

Absent: Edna LaPan

Mr. Mulhane and Ms. Hamilton left the meeting at 8:30 AM

Guest: Selectman Scott Despres

The Board welcomed Ms. Ostrowski and Selectman Despres. The Chairman called the meeting to order and reminded the attendees of requirements under the Open Meeting Law related to audio/video recording notification and public participation.

VOUCHERS:

Vouchers were signed at this meeting.

MINUTES:

A motion to accept the March minutes was made by Rick Townsend, seconded by Steve Walinsky. Joyce Ostrowski abstained. Vote: unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE:

We received a letter from Central Mass Agency on Aging announcing "Elder Care 2018" on May 16th at the Leicester Country Club. This event is co-sponsored by Sheriff Evangelidis.

We received an invitation from MCOA inviting us to their Annual Meeting on May 17th. Ms. Peltier made an announcement that at this meeting our executive director would be receiving an Advocate of the Year award for her work with transportation.

We received an e-mail informing us that our Executive Director has been selected by the Mass Commission on the status of Women as one of the Commonwealth's "Unsung Heroines of 2018" This award will be presented to Ms. O'Connor on June 29th at the State House in Boston.

We received an up-date from MCOA stating that we are awaiting the House Ways and Means

budget regarding the Formula Grant. The potential outcomes can be a cut, level funding of \$9.70 per elder, \$11.00 per elder, \$11.70 per elder or possible \$12.00 per elder. MCOA is requesting the COA formula grant and Service Incentive Grant program be fully funded at \$17 million in line item #9110-9002.

STANDING REPORTS:

- A. Budget and Finance – Ms. Peltier reported that she has attended most of the Finance committee meetings. She explained that the FinComm was coming up with a new dollar amount recommendation for the COA budget. There would be no Council on Aging capital request warrant articles at Town Meeting this year and the Town Manager may borrow for the driveway paving.
- B. Personnel – No updates to report.
- C. Nominating – Ms. Peltier presented for approval to the COA Board a letter addressed to the Board of Selectmen regarding the resignation of Margo Masmanian and the filling of the vacancy on the COA Board. A motion was made by Lee Ayotte to send the letter. It was seconded by Marie Kosiba. Vote unanimous. The Board decided by general consent that we would not initiate an Open Meeting Law complaint to the Board of Selectmen/Attorney General's Office. For audit purposes, Ms. Peltier is requesting that the COA Executive Director/Contract Manager for the Commonwealth EOEA Formula Grant compile a paper trail for the appointment to the COA Board which includes the applications submitted to the Town Manager's office, a letter of appointment from the Town Clerk, and notice that a CORI check was performed by the Town Office in compliance with Executive Office of Elder Affairs regulations under 101 CMR 15.00 *Criminal Offender Record Checks*.
- D. Legislative – The Board members discuss the MCOA letter about the Formula Grant, in hopes that the amount would be increased for F.Y.'19. We also need to speak to our Congressman regarding the funding for the SHINE program.
- E. Senior Center Usage – No requests at this time.
- F. Building Maintenance/Equipment – Ms. O'Connor reported that the refrigerator had to be repaired and we had a leak under the main sinks. Both issues have been fixed.

Director's Report – Ms. O'Connor reported that she attended the MA DOT conference and received more information for increasing our transportation program. She attended the WRTA Public Hearing regarding the proposed cuts to the fixed route services to Millbury. This would occur if there is a reduction in the State budget for the Regional Transit Authorities. She also discussed the major changes at the RMV and how this is affecting the elderly. Ms. O'Connor will be looking to replace the Zumba Gold and the Yoga instructor as she will be going back to school full time in September.

OLD BUSINESS:

Elder Services of Worcester/Nutrition Program- Ms. Peltier gave an update on the programs and services they provide. The noon luncheon menu will be discussed at our next meeting.

Intergenerational Programs/Friendly Visitor - Ms. O'Connor reported that the freshmen class of Millbury High School did a day of giving back to the community. We had 11 students working in our garden. The computer classes are on Thursday from 2:30 to 3:30 with the National Honor students.

Elder Service Work-off Program - We have added 1 new worker. The warrant article will be for \$20,000, and the amount per hour will change from \$7.50 to \$8.00.

Millbury Federal Credit Union Gift: We are working with the family to pick a date in May for the dedication of the garden pergola in memory of Everett Grahn.

NEW BUSINESS:

Selectman Despres spoke to the Board on the proposed new fees at the transfer station. Discussion followed.

Congressman Jim McGovern will visit the Senior Center on May 2nd at 11 AM. Ms. O'Connor sent an invitation to all the Selectmen and the Town Manager.

Boston Post Cane: We are still waiting to hear from the family of the oldest resident.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A motion was made to adjourn at 8:40 AM by Richard Townsend. Seconded by Steve Walinsky. Vote Unanimous.

Next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 16, 2018 at 7:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

Judith A. O'Connor

Lee Ayotte

Betty Hamilton

Kevin Higginbottom



Marie Kosiba



Edna LaPan

Stuart Mulhane



Joyce Ostrowski



Kaye Peltier

Sarahbeth Persiani



Rick Townsend



Steve Walinsky