

MINUTES
COUNCIL ON AGING

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17 OCT 19 AM 11:49
MILLBURY, MASS.

Date: September 20, 2017 at 7:30 AM

Present: Kaye Peltier, Lee Ayotte, Edna LaPan, Steve Walinsky, Kevin Higginbottom, Richard Townsend, Marie Kosiba, Margo Masmanian, Sarabeth Persiani, Betty Hamilton and Judith O'Connor

Absent: Stuart Mulhane

Chairman Peltier asked for a moment of silence in memory of former Board member Lorraine Hayes who recently passed away.

Vouchers: Vouchers were signed at this meeting.

Minutes: A motion to accept the June minutes was made by Rick Townsend, Seconded by Lee Ayotte. Vote: unanimous.

Reorganization of the Board: A motion was made by Marie Kosiba that the slate officers remain the same as last year. Seconded by Rich Townsend. Vote unanimous.

The officers are as follows: Kaye Peltier, Chairman,
Steve Walinsky, Vice Chairman,
Lee Ayotte Clerk

CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter was received from the Town Clerk with the Certification of Organization, Organizational Meeting Notice and the Meeting and Agenda notice forms for our individual meetings. She also stated that we must abide by the Open Meeting Law with the posting of the 48 hour requirement.

We received a letter from the Worcester County Food Bank regarding the new eligibility requirements and the distribution of products that the household can receive. The new guideline must be posted.

We received a letter from Catholic Charities asking us to sign a new Host agreement for the Senior Employment Program. Ms. O'Connor stated that she still has a request in for a Senior Aide for the office.

Ms. O'Connor received an e-mail from the Asst. Manager of Government & Public Affairs, Katherine Zazzera stating that she wanted her in the loop with the State and Town for the beginning of the outreach program on the curb-cutting initiative.

We received a copy of an update from Sen. Moore's office regarding the COA Formula Grant. There will be a cut in funding and we should know soon what the amount will be, it is going from \$10. Per elderly to possibly \$9.70. There could also be some 9C cuts in the future.

We received a letter from MCOA regarding the fall conference. Ms. O'Connor will be attending Oct. 18th through 20th. There will also be a 2% increase in the annual dues for this association.

STANDING REPORTS:

- A. Budget and Finance – Ms O'Connor reported that the Finance Director was leaving at the end of September. She did go over our budget before she left to make sure we are current in

our postings. The Town Manager has a temp agency in place until a replacement is found.

B. Personnel- Ms. O'Connor reported that she started a new Outreach Coordinator to assist with our currently programs and to get added hours for our new SNAP program starting in Oct. She will be paid out of the Formula Grant.

C. Nominating - No Report

D. Legislative – We are still waiting for the State's final budget. There is concern that the funding for the Shine Program will be cut. Ms. Peltier also reported that the COLA increase for Social Security will be about 2.2% in January.

E. Senior Center Usage: - The Millbury Lions Club used the main function room on Sept. 18th for their District meeting from 6 PM to 9 PM.

F. Building Maintenance/Equipment. - Ms. O'Connor reported that the front of the building has been painted by the Sheriff's community outreach program. There is one more piece to be done around the sign near the roof. There is a repair that has to be made before it can be painted. We will also have the sign repainted. The monies left from the warrant article can be re-purposed for another Capital expense. We would have to do this at town meeting. We have two years on this article. The new commercial vacuum was purchased.

Director's Report- Ms. O'Connor gave the COA stats for the summer months to all the Board members. The Town Manager will be coming to the senior center on the 3rd Wednesday of the month from 9:30 AM to 10:30 AM. She and Deb Pousland attended the SNAP trainings for the new program that we will be offering by making application for Food Stamps. We will be giving out Flu shots on Sept. 27 from 8:30 AM to 12 noon. She will also be writing the Fallon grant of the food pantry. Ms. O'Connor also reported that she sent a staff person to view the Memory Café in Worcester. We are also scheduling another day for the Shine representative to do and information of the Medicare changes. Changes can be made until Dec. 7, 2017.

OLD BUSINESS

Elder Care Services\Nutrition Program- Ms. Peltier reported on Protective Service and the Abuse Hot Line. It's not going well and the State is asking Elder Services for advice and training for the call takers. The annual meeting will be Oct. 17th at Holy Cross and Board members who would like to attend will let Ms. O'Connor know.

Intergenerational Programs/ *Friendly Visitor* - Ms. O'Connor reported that letters have gone out to the local High School looking for students wanting to be part of our "helping Hands" program. We are looking for more elderly clients who need the service. We are going to read to the 4th at the Shaw school in the near future.

Elder Service Work-off Program - We have added 1 new person and have added the Asa Waters Mansion to our list of Departments using Senior workers.

Special Gift Committee: Mr. Walinsky reported that we have a building permit and that we should have the project stated in the middle of October.

Report on the Friends of the Millbury Seniors, Inc. - Ms. O'Connor reported that they will

holding a Fall Fair in November and they will be part of the Chain of Lights.

New Business:

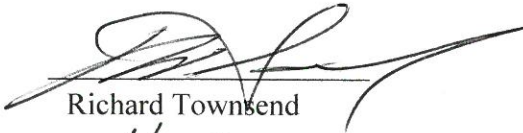
Ms. Persiani asked about Millbury becoming a Dementia Friendly Town. Ms. O'Connor will research for more information and up-coming conference.

OTHER BUSINESS:

A motion was mad to adjourn at 8:30 Am by Lee Ayotte. Seconded by Margo Masmanian. Vote Unanimous.

Next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2017 at 7:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Judith A. O'Connor



Richard Townsend



Kaye Peltier

Stuart Mulhane

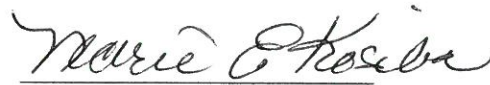
Betty Hamilton



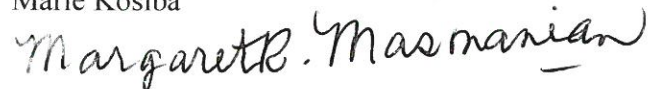
Edna LaPan



Lee Ayotte



Marie Kosiba



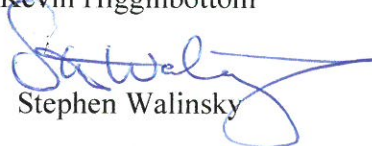
Margaret Masmanian



Sarahbeth Persiani



Kevin Higginbottom



Stephen Walinsky