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MILLBURY, MASS

MINUTES
COUNCIL ON AGING

Date: September 21, 2016 at 7:30 AM

Present :Richard Townsend, Edna LaPan, Marie Kosiba, Lee Ayotte, Sarahbeth Persiani, Betty Hamilton, Suartt Mulhane ,Steve Walinsky Margaret Masmanian and Judith O'Connor

Absent: Kaye Peltier

The Board welcomed and introduced new Board member Sarahbeth Persiani

Vouchers: Vouchers were signed at this meeting.

Minutes: A motion to accept the June minutes was made by Edna LaPan. Seconded by Margaret Masmanian. Vote: unanimous.

Reorganization of the Board - A motion was made by Richard Townsend for the following slate of officers, Chairman Kaye Peltier, Vice Chairman Steve Walinsky, Clerk Lee Ayotte. Seconded by Marie Kosiba. Vote Unanimous.

A letter was read from Lorraine Hayes resigning from the COA Board due to ill health. A motion to accept her letter of resignation with regret was made by Marie Kosiba. Seconded by Margaret Masmanian. Vote Unanimous. Board members noted that She was a wonderful member and served our elder Community well.

CORRESPONDENCE:

We received a letter from the Auburn COA regarding the start of a new program called Aging Mastery Program. The topic include healthy eating, financial fitness, falls prevention, sleep and more.

We received a letter from the Worcester County Food Bank requires all agencies distributing USDA foods do not discriminate against clients on the basis of religion or religious beliefs.

We received a letter of thanks from the Mass. Rehabilitation Commission for supporting the summer intern program. Ms. O'Connor also received a "Certificate of Appreciation". We had an intern work at the Senior Center for 5 weeks.

We received a letter from Catholic Charities regarding the Senior Aide Program. They are increasing the hours back to 20 hours per week.

We received a letter from MCPHS thanking us for letting the nursing students to come in and interview the elderly. The students also send a hand written note thanking us for our time and efforts in helping to make this educational experience a success.

We received a letter from MCPHS, Pharmacy Outreach Program offering a free service to the elderly "ask the Pharmacist". We would be looking to have the students come to go over the medications that are being taken by our clients.

We received 2 letters from the Millbury Police Dept. thanking us for being part of the Police Cadets training Program and for providing a Van for several day trips to other sites that were included in the training.

We received an e-mail from Sen. Moore requesting a date for his annual Turkey luncheon. This event will take place on Wednesday, Nov. 9th at 12 noon.

We received an e-mail from the Energy Committee inviting us to the event on Sept. 7th for the delivery of 4 electric vehicles (cars) that were paid for through a Grant.

We received a letter from Julia Martiros, Nutrition Director for Elder Service requesting a suggested contribution for the Nutrition program. The amount she is looking for is \$2,000. After discussion Ms. O'Connor explained that we have not sent a donation in the past as we offer the donation in-kind by opening the facility at 6:30 AM for the delivery of food and with the purchase of new equipment as needed. The COA has a line item in the amount of \$1,000. for Nutrition.

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

A. Budget and Finance – No Report

B. Personnel – Mrs. O'Connor reported that Catholic Charities took back the Senior Aide to work in their office on July 1st. She has put in a request for a replacement.

C. Nominating – Lee Ayotte reported for his committee that they received a request from Kevin Higginbottom to be considered for an opening on the COA Board. He interviewed him and found his resume reflects the qualities that would be a good match for the COA Board. With the resignation of Ms. Hayes his committee would like to recommend that the COA Board submit his name to the Board of Selectmen for the appointment. A motion was made by Lee Ayotte that the Board recommend Kevin Higginbottom to fill the vacancy left by Lorraine Hayes. Seconded by Margaret Masmanian. Vote Unanimous.

Mr. Ayotte will prepare a letter to the Board of Selectmen and deliver it to the Town Hall with a copy to the acting Town Manager Plante. Mr. Walinsky asked that this committee (Mr. Ayotte, Ms. Peltier, Ms. LaPan) be praised for doing a great job and thanked them.

D. Legislative – No Report

E. Senior Center Usage – A 40th high school reunion is requesting to use the Hall on Sept. 24th and the Millbury Lions Club is requesting to use the Hall on Sept. 28th. A motion was made by Margaret Masmanian to honor these requests. Seconded by Betty Hamilton. Vote Unanimous

F. Building Maintenance/Equipment. – Ms. O'Connor reported that the Town's DPW workers dug a hole and raised the man hole just outside the rear entrance of the senior

center. This is only the first part of adding another man hole in the rear of the building that will have a pipe going under the railroad tracks to the other side near the Blackstone River.

Director's Report- Ms. O'Connor reported that we were the 1st and 3rd place winners of the Unibank donation contest. The summer exercise programs were reduced this summer because of The instructors schedule. All exercise activities are back to normal hours and good participation. We will be providing a Flu Clinic on Sept. 29th from 8:30 AM to 12 noon.

OLD BUSINESS

Elder Care Services/Nutrition Program- Ms. O'Connor attended the monthly meeting. The issues discussed there that beginning Sept. 1st there is a waiting list for services. There is no waiting for the Meals on Wheels program. All individuals wanting to eat at a congregate and meal site that are under the age of 60 , need now pay \$5.50. They also reported on workplace safety in their facility. They received a grant to offer Dementia Friendly Community programs.

Intergenerational Programs. Friendly Visitor - Ms. O'Connor reported that all the area schools received a letter and a poster encouraging teens to be part of our "Helping Hands" program.

Elder Service Work-off Program – Ms. O'Connor reported that she added 3 more individuals to the program. There is a small issue with the Clerks Union regarding the program. They feel the elderly are taking overtime away from them. The Senior Workers receive \$750. Per hour for the work they perform and the money comes off their tax bill. Discussion followed.

Report on the Friends of the Millbury Seniors, Inc. –The "Friends" Group received a grant for a replacement vehicle in the amount of \$64,000., also operating funds. They are waiting for the contract to come from DOT. These grants were written by the COA Exec. Director and will need a 20% match. The State will provide 80% of the cost of the new van. Eighteen new bricks were added to the Memory Walk this summer. They will hold a Fair in November and be part of the Chain of Lights on Dec. 4th.

New Business:

Special Gift Committee - A committee consisting of Steve Walinsky, Sarabeth Persiani, and Kaye Peltier was established to research a gift that will be donated by the Millbury Credit Union in the name of Everett Grahn.

Other Business:

Mr. Ayotte asked the executive director to provide an organizational chart for the Board that has job assignments for all of the COA personnel.

Dates to Remember:

A motion to adjourn at 8:55 AM was made by Edna LaPan. Seconded by Marie Kosiba. Vote Unanimous.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 19,, 2016 at 7:30 P.M.

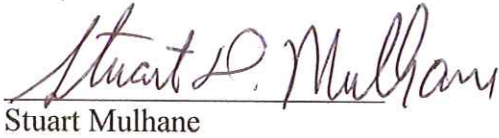
Respectfully submitted,
Judith A. O'Connor


Richard Townsend


Marie Kosiba

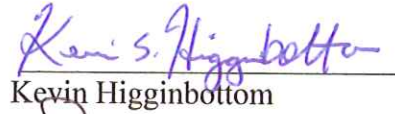

Kaye Peltier

Margaret Masmanian


Stuart Mulhane

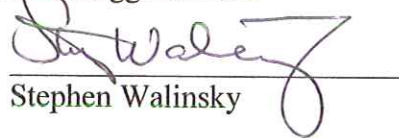

Sarahbeth Persiani


Betty Hamilton


Kevin Higginbottom

Edna LaPan

Lee Ayotte


Stephen Walinsky