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MILBURY, MASS.

**MINUTES**  
**COUNCIL ON AGING**

Date: October 21, 2015 at 1:00 PM

Present: Richard Townsend, Everett Grahn, Betty Hamilton, Edna LaPan, Margaret Masmanian, Marie Kosiba, Lee Ayotte, Lorraine Hayes and Judith O'Connor

Absent: Steve Walinsky, Kaye Peltier and Stuart Mulhane.

Vouchers: Vouchers were signed by all members present at this meeting.

Minutes: A motion to accept the September minutes was made by Everett Grahn. Seconded by Marie Kosiba Vote: unanimous.

**Correspondence**

We received an e-mail from Christine Andrews of Next Step Living asking us to participate in the Millbury Energy Challenge, They would like to have a presentation table at the Chain of Lights. This program is part of Mass Save.

We received an e-mail from EOEI letting us know about the Community Capital Conversations with MassDOT that will be in-line from Oct. 19<sup>th</sup> through November 5<sup>th</sup>. Transportation is the number one concern of nearly every COA in the Commonwealth.

We received notification from MCOA that the FY2016 COA Direct Grants Cycle has begun. All applications of these incentive grants must be in by November 20, 2015. Ms. O'Connor stated that she will apply for the "Keep Moving Walking club grant again this year.

We received a Flyer from HMEA that they are having a career Fair on November 12<sup>th</sup> from 4 PM to 7 PM.

We received a Flyer from The Best Years Expo on November 7<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM – 5PM at Gillette Stadium, Foxboro.

**Report of Standing Committee**

- A. *Budget & Finance* – No report
- B. *Personnel* – Ms. O'Connor reported that we have a new Senior Aide from Catholic Charities. This aide will do activities and some general office work.
- C. *Nominating* – No report
- D. *Legislative* – Ms. O'Connor reported that the deadline for the Medicare changes is Dec, 7<sup>th</sup> and we are having several informational forums with the Shine representative. We have also had Fallon Health schedule Oct. 27<sup>th</sup> for an informational forum.

- E. Senior Center – Policy Committee- A motion was made by Lee Ayotte that the Lions Club be allowed to use the large function Room at the Center on Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> and Jan. 28, 2016 for their District meetings. Seconded by Marie Kosiba. Vote Unanimous.
- F. Building Maintenance/Equipment. – At the request of the Mr. Townsend Ms. O'Connor contacted the DPW Director regarding the process of the drainage problem at the Senior Center driveway. He responded with he was pursuing an easement for our sewer along the railroad property in order to establish an overflow from our drainage system to the river under the railroad tracks. He also stated that he would have his staff pump the water following a significant rain. Ms. O'Connor stated that she and Mr. Townsend spoke to Selectmen King regarding the issue and asked if a small lip could be put at the top of the driveway to deflect the water run-off coming in down from the street. This small burm was added and seems to working until the major problem is solved. There is still water, but not as much.
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Director's Report- Mrs. O'Connor reported that she attended the MCOA conference and the main topic was addressing the needs of the baby boomers and the changes that will affect the Senior Centers. Transportation is one of the biggest issues facing the elderly, along with outreach. Having programs that interest the younger elderly clients is very important.

#### OLD BUSINESS

*Elder Care Services/Nutrition Program-* Ms. O'Connor reported that she and several Board members attended their Annual Meeting at Holy Cross. The keynote speaker was the new Secretary of Elder Affairs Alice Bonner. She stressed that they are committed to promoting health, independence and resilience for individuals with dementia and their families.

*Intergenerational Programs. Friendly Visitor* Ms. O'Connor reported that we have had several new teens that have started in September for the "Helping Hands" Program. The staff is getting the volunteers ready for the reading program with the 4<sup>th</sup> graders at the Shaw School.

*Elder Service Work-off Program – We are looking to add a couple more individuals to this program and are looking for more town department to get involved.*

Report on the Friends of the Millbury Seniors, Inc. –The "Friends" Group is still selling bricks and the walkway is complete with all the ones that are sold, more can be added as received. After discussion the members felt we need to sell bricks at the chain of lights. They will hold a Fall Fair on Nov. 14<sup>th</sup> from 9 to 2 . They will also be part of the chain of lights having a tea room, entertainment and decorating a ginger bread cookie.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The Police Chief and the Fire Chief will be holding a food drive (stuff a truck) on Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> at Gorette's. They will divide the results between the local food pantries.

A motion to adjourn at 2:00 PM was made by Everett Grahn. Seconded by Lee Ayotte. Vote Unanimous.

Next meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 19,, 2015 at 1:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,  
Judith A. O'Connor

  
Richard Townsend

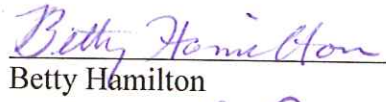
  
Marie Kosiba

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Kaye Peltier

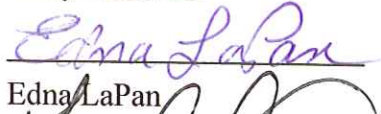
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Margaret Masmanian

  
Stuart Mulhane

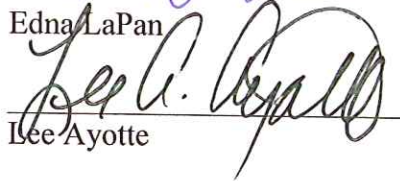
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