

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD
REGULAR SESSION MEETING MINUTES
Veteran's Memorial Building, Rm 19
2900 Main Street, Millis, MA 02054
MEETING NOTES FROM August 14, 2015

CALL TO ORDER: Mary Skilling called the meeting to order at 9:01 am. The following persons were present:, COA Director Patty Kayo, Secretary Helen Daly, Bill Brown, Maria Neville, Kaplan Hasanoglu, Brooks Corl – Members of the Finance Committee, Susan Vecchi and Peter Germain

Discussion with the members of the Finance Committee opened the meeting.

Items discussed were:

1. Denied Transit Grant

In the past we have received up to 80% coverage needed to purchase a new vehicle for the COA. This year our request has been denied. Millis and Milford are not part of the RTA – chances of these towns receiving grant money looks slim in the future.

- Who should we contact? Peter has requested that the COA find out who in the RTA is the person responsible for grants so that we may contact a decision maker. Also suggested that we contact Richard Ross as well as Rep Linsky.
- Question asked – How can Patty accomplish all this in her 25 hours/week? Kaplan volunteered to assist in compiling required information.
- Susan suggested that members of the COA be more visible at the FinCom and Board of Selectmen meetings.
- Peter suggested that we ask seniors to send letters to political figures showing an active involvement of the seniors for their COA.
- Suggestion was made by Kaplan that we hold a meeting for all seniors – provide transportation and food as an incentive for them to attend. Bring specific items of interest to the entire group to solicit their involvement.
- Patty suggested that we have gatherings at the COA to show broadcasts of the FinCom and Selectmen's meetings. Perhaps seniors would be interested in an afternoon meeting.

A number of issues and ideas were discussed including the need for ALS (Advanced Life Support) training for town EMT's. - would be beneficial to our senior population.

FinCom members were dismissed and regularly scheduled meeting began at 9:45

Secretary's report accepted as written

Motion to accept report made by Maria, seconded by Kaplan

Treasurer's Report

- No Report –Patty will not receive Revolving Budget until September – she will formulate her accounting at that time.
- Motion to accept report made by Maria, seconded by Bill

HESSCO Report –

- No HESSCO report as Maria was on vacation at their last meeting.

Outreach report-

- No Outreach report as Carol is on vacation for this meeting.

Director's Report

- Michelle has requested “Flex” hours. After discussion, the Board feels that we need someone in the office at specific times during operating hours.

Motion: That Patty will let the employee know that the request has been discussed and denied based on need of the staffing of the Senior Center during regularly scheduled hours.

Motion was unanimously approved by the board members.

- Suggestion was made by Helen that we have the secretary at the Senior Housing advise the COA when they are having a speaker appear so that we may announce it in the monthly newsletter so that the entire senior population will be aware of the opportunity.
- The Friends would like to fund some special activity ideas – Patty will make a list of these and send to all board members. Items to be discussed at the next meeting.

Motion to accept report made by Kaplan, seconded by Bill

Chairman’s Report

- What has happened to some of the exercise programs previously offered by the center?
- Patty reports that 4-7 people generally attend the TV exercise programs.
- How do we get people to come to the Center to visit instead of going to McDonalds or Dunkin’Donuts?
- Mary wants us to consider covering over the stairs and the ramps so that in the winter they are not closed to our use. This is against policy as it does not allow handicapped egress, should the elevator not be working.

Motion to accept report made by Maria, seconded by Kaplan

Old Business:

- Signs – we now have approval of the Planning Board – Friends now needs to go before the Board of Selectmen for final approval and then the signs will be ordered.
- It will cost \$750.00 to move the pool table to the Supportive Day room. Patty to put the old table on Craig’s List for FREE. We must get rid of the old table before we can consider moving the new one. More discussion is needed on this item.

New Business:

- Transportation – Employees have asked about deferral of fees for users such as those going to 2 or 3 treatments per week. There is a “sliding fee” in place for those unable to pay the full amount. Those people only need to discuss with Patty to negotiate an amount.
- People from WillowBrook want to come to Senior Center at no cost. Deferred to the next meeting.
- Driver downtime- do we pay for driver downtime? Patty will look at the school policy and advise. Deferred to the next meeting.
- Fixed routes are on Thursdays, 2nd goes to Market Basket and Walmart
4th goes to CVS and Roche Bros

Brooks from the Friends reported that the “Appreciation Luncheon” for Eleanor was a huge success and meant a great deal to her. 45 people attended.

Also, on 9/23 a “Bean Bag” game will be held at the Horseshoe pit – hot dogs and goodies will be offered by the Friends.

He noted that many checks have been made out to The Friends rather than Fox Tours. In the future the checks will be returned to the sender with instructions to make check out to Fox Tours.

Maria will be note taker at the next meeting as Helen will be on vacation.

Motion to adjourn made by Maria, seconded by Kaplan

Meeting adjourned at 11:10

Next COA Board Meeting: September 11 at 9:00 AM

