

**COUNCIL ON
AGING
MEETING
MINUTES**

September 9, 2013

Upton Senior Center – 2 Farm Street, Upton, MA 01568

In Attendance: Chair, Betty Consigli; Vice Chair; Grace Wadsworth, Secretary Myra Bigelow, Members Judi Blanchard, Joyce Hamilton, Holly Whalen, Judith Katz, Gus Dufresne, Bobbi Grenard, Richard Provost, Nancy Rettenmayer and Blythe Robinson, Town Manager

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- 4 The Upton Council on Aging's monthly meeting was called to order at 9:00am by Betty Consigli.
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- 6 The first business of the day was to vote to accept the appointment of an acting secretary since
- 7 the resignation of the Council's secretary, Katie Kelly. Myra Bigelow has agreed to take on this
- 8 responsibility until the election of officers in February.
- 9
- 10 A vote was taken to accept Gus Dufresne, Bobbi Grenard and Richard Provost as new members.
- 11 The members welcomed Nancy Rettenmayee, a new attendee.
- 12
- 13 There was a general conversation about obtaining the Council's Agenda ahead of time and
- 14 receiving a copy of the previous meeting minutes a few days in advance so the members will be
- 15 able to review its content and make any necessary changes. Amendments were made to the
- 16 August 12th meeting minutes and are as follows; minutes were submitted by Myra Bigelow, not
- 17 Katie Kelly. Maintenance personnel Paul Marchand's last name was omitted. Minutes were
- 18 approved.
- 19
- 20 Holly gave an update on the office staff. Temporary employee Karen Varney has been helping
- 21 with answering the phone and performing administrative duties.
- 22
- 23 Town Manager Blythe Robinson informed the members that she has no news as to when Mr.
- 24 Gardner will return to the COA.
- 25
- 26 A question was raised if Holly should be a Board Alternate since a compensated employee of the
- 27 center cannot vote on issues. Holly stated that she is there to insure a quorum is met and not as a
- 28 voting member.
- 29
- 30 The Upton Center was asked to host a table on the common on Heritage Day, Saturday October
- 31 5th from 9:00am-2:00pm. Holly is planning on setting up a table with literature and giving an
- 32 overview of the center's activities and assistance offered as well as what the volunteers are
- 33 involved in. Betty will be on hand to help Holly with the day's activities.
- 34
- 35 Holly informed the members that the September 16th trip to Galilee filled up quickly resulting in
- 36 a long waiting list. Holly will look into the possibility of booking another trip this month to
- 37 accommodate those who could not make it on the 16th.
- 38
- 39

40 It was noted that there are on occasion posters from other senior centers are posted letting us
41 know that all are welcomed to sign up for these longer trips. These centers have a larger van and
42 can accommodate larger groups. The Upton Center trips are shorter, well attended and
43 affordable.

44
45 Both Holly and Betty will be attending the Salvation Army collection day meeting on October
46 11, 2013.

47
48 September is Senior Center month and Holly has scheduled a great celebration to be enjoyed by
49 all. Other activities include open house exercise class in the morning, Men's Club supper and
50 Let's Talk Healthy. The center will be traveling to Blackstone for lunch and bingo as part of
51 senior center activities exchange. We look forward to participating with other area centers.

52
53 Discussion regarding offering a computer class seemed to be of interest. Holly will contact the
54 High School to see if they would assist the center with a workshop.

55
56 The birthday bash was scheduled to take place on September 27th the same day as the Men's
57 Club supper; therefore the birthday bash was moved to September 23rd. Holly spoke of
58 contacting the Fire Department to ask them for a fire safety count for the center. Over 70 seniors
59 signed up and Holly would like to see that we serve as many people as we can. Judi Blanchard
60 has offered to collect the dinner tickets this month.

61
62 Apple picking was one of the topics of discussion for October's activity as well as
63 intergenerational for Halloween.

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65 Meeting adjourned at 9:40am by a motion made by Judi, second by Judith.

66
67 Respectfully submitted,

68
69 *Myra Bigelow*
70 Secretary