

WAREHAM COUNCIL ON AGING & SENIOR
SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD OF DIRECTORS
MEETING
SEPTEMBER 1, 2010

Rick Boucher called the monthly board meeting to order on Sept. 1st at 6:16 p.m. at the Multi-Service Center Building in the Muffin Room, 208.

Attendance: Rick Boucher, Martha Strachan, Alan Slavin, Marcia Griswold, Liz McDonald, Gerry Hannon. Guests: Sgt. John Walcek , Wareham Police Dept. (COA senior liaison), Patricia Ciccotelli, John Morrissey, Barry Cattabriga and Cara Pillsbury.

Minutes of August 4, 2010 approved with the following corrections: On page 1 under Attendance: Brenda "Eckstrom" needs to be corrected. On the last page under Adjournment: the motion was passed (not past). Also, in that same place, the time is missing a colon and should be 7:30 p.m. On page 3 there should be a space between "in conjunction" under title Survey 2004. Motion to approve with corrections was made by Alan Slavin and seconded by Gerry Hannon.

Rick welcomed Sgt. John Walcek our senior liason. He is available at the COA office on Thursdays, 9:00 a.m.to 11:00 p.m.

Director's Report – Marcia Griswold gave a written outline handout with her oral report. There were 560 Meals served on-site. There were 1,560 meals delivered. Activities for the month of August included a picnic, strawberry short-cake social, and the Men's coffee hour offered the second Wednesday of the month hosted by Jim Eubanks. There were three in-service staff development (3 in July). Under social services: There were 512 individuals who received resource information and assistance. There were 52 who received out of area transportation. Upcoming activities/events: On Saturday, September 18th there will be a Healthy Lifestyle Fair from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. held at the Wareham Multi-Service Center, 48 Marion Road, Wareham. Jordan Hospital will be offering seminars pertaining to health. Southcoast will be giving health screenings. A Jordan Hospital doctor from Plymouth County, Dr. Molloy will be speaking about "Arthritis", A lawyer, Brian Barreira, will be offering legal aid and talking about "Elder/ Senior Law" and AT& T will be offering a workshop on "How to use your cell phone". Also, American Red Cross will be speaking on Emergency Preparedness. There will be twenty-two vendors with a good cross mix. This is the second year having this fair and it is free to the public. Its purpose is to encourage those in the community to take better care of themselves. Transportation is available by phone ahead of time. Volunteers are needed. Flyers are now available. Please put these flyers up in the area where you live. A COA brochure was handed out listing some of activities offered at the center. There are a variety of programs offered including "Line Dancing" at night. Financial Assistance is available including scholarships to take a course that

would benefit their health and welfare through CEDA. The Wareham Weekly newspaper did an interview with Marcia for the fair. Kathy LaFlamme and Marcia went on Paul Ciccotelli's television show to publicize this event as well. There was a news article on the donations of the computers from Mayflower Bank in the Wareham Weekly. There was also a thank you to John Walcek for the cookout for the seniors. Upcoming courses for September include "Coping with Job Loss", "Coping With Grief" and a field trip to Dartmouth Mall for shopping.

Old Business: Committees

Building Committee: Rick Boucher is our elected representative for the Westfield Subcommittee on senior affordable housing. It falls in line with the mission of the COA to explore avenues for seniors to help them with their health and welfare. There was a citizen participation petition circulating around the table asking for signatures in support of the recommendations of the Westfield subcommittee. The committee is exploring the possibility of building an affordable senior center. No one knows the actual cost for a center. This theory has been discussed in the past. The architectural infrastructure has already been done. This is not a new idea. However, no investigation was actual done on the possibility of having a senior center. Funding would be 100% paid for. We already own the property. Federal and state programs would fund it 100% if it was part of another project and not necessarily if it was submitted by itself. There would be no tax increase. We need to do better for the seniors of this community.

Equipment Committee: Rick reporting on behalf of Sandra Fleet. Mayflower Bank has donated five computers to the C.O.A., they need to have monitors. Four computers hooked up to one printer. We could use more printers. The objective is they will be available for seniors, independent web access and for the purpose of training seniors to use the computer.

Service: We need help with "Meals on Wheels". Over 1500 meals were delivered this past month as mentioned in Marcia's report. There are three routes. Six people per day with a total of 30 for the week.

Transportation: Alan Slavin will be attending a work fair at University of Mass. at Dartmouth on Sept. 8th.

John Walcek, Police liason for seniors at the C.O.A.: There was an Alzheimer's workshop given by the Wareham Police Dept. Transmitter wristbands were tested. This could also be used for individuals that have downs syndrome and/or autism. Teams were formed and hand-held wristbands to test for Project Lifesaver Interaction. Liz McDonald participated in this test run. After this training run an account was set up to offset costs of bracelets with the help of the Alzheimer's organization.

John thanked those who participated in the Tax Work Off Program. A thank you sunset

Cruise will be given on September 29th for the pier workers.

Old Business: Associate Board Memberships

A petition to change our bylaws will be presented to limit the number of board members for the C.O.A. to nine from eleven with two associate members (who re-up annually). Those new board members terms would be honored. It will be presented as a warrant article by deadline of Sept. 3rd.

New Business: September 18th Health Fair (see Marcia Griswold's report)

Potential/ New Board Members were introduced. Newly appointed Board member, Gerry Hannon was here last month. He has helped with Meals on Wheels. He has been involved with recreation for nine years. Barry Cattabriga and Cara Pillsbury shared with the board why they had applied for membership to the board. Recommendation vote was not taken.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Alan Slavin and seconded by Gerry Hannon. Motion was approved at 7:30 p.m. unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by,

Martha V. Strachan
Secretary of the C.O.A.