

Wayland Council on Aging

MINUTES

MAY 7, 2013

7:00PM

SENIOR CENTER

FACILITATOR	Betsy Soule, Chair
NOTE TAKER	Mary Antes, Secretary
ATTENDEES	<u>COA Board Members Present:</u> Betsy Soule, Chair; Mary Antes, Evelyn Ekmejian Harriet Onello, Becky Patterson, Denise Yurkofsky, Bill Zellen <u>COA Board Members Absent:</u> Bill Sterling, <u>Director:</u> Julie Secord <u>Guest:</u> Alice Peisch
PUBLIC COMMENT	There was no public comment

Agenda topics: Meeting Convened at 7:02pm

ALICE PEISCH

DISCUSSION	Alice Peisch attended the meeting to introduce herself to Wayland as she now represents Precinct 4 in the State Legislature. She explained the redistricting procedure, which happens after each census. She has represented the 14 th Norfolk District for 10 years and is chair of the Education Committee. Julie said that she is concerned about increasing the per-senior formula grant. Rep. Peisch said that the House approved an increase from \$7 to \$8 and has sent the bill to the Senate. Mary asked about the prospects of the Governor’s proposed regionalization of the state’s 241 housing authorities. Betsy raised the concern about the increased senior population and its impact on the Wayland COA’s space, transportation services, and tax relief. Julie pointed out that some Wayland seniors cannot take advantage of the circuit breaker because the law does not allow seniors to pay less in taxes than the prior year. The income level for the circuit breaker is low; because it affects all towns, Rep. Peisch suggested involving the MMA in the effort to increase the income level.
ACTION	The board thanked Representative Peisch for attending the meeting.

REVIEW OF TOWN MEETING

BOARD

DISCUSSION	The COA budget was untouched at Town Meeting. The purchase of the Finnerty’s property failed as did the funding of a new DPW and River’s Edge.
ACTION	

BAY PATH

EVELYN EKMEJIAN

DISCUSSION	The Elder Services budget has been level funded, which is actually a reduction due to increased service needs. Bay Path is increasing its management of patients coming out of the hospital in an effort to reduce readmissions and is doing more screening for depression. Congregate meals are coming to Framingham. A grant will allow Bay Path to improve its website.
ACTION	

SENIOR TAX RELIEF

JULIE SECORD AND BILL ZELLEN

DISCUSSION	The last meeting was February 12 th . Rebecca, the chair, has a new job that makes it difficult for her to attend day-time meetings. Bill said there is not much to report. Don Bustin is pulling together statistics to try to identify who needs help. He does not wish to become a member of the committee but he attends all the meetings.
ACTION	

FRIENDS OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

JULIE SECORD

DISCUSSION	The town-wide appeal letter is about to be mailed. The Friends are planning the second Lobster Fest in September.
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ACTION	
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DIRECTOR'S REPORT

JULIE SECORD

DISCUSSION	<p>Beginning January 1, 2014, tax work-off participants will be considered town employees and will have 7.5 percent (\$37.50) withheld from their pay check for retirement. They will sign a statement turning over 100 percent of their tax work-off income to the town to be deducted from their property taxes. The withheld funds will be returned.</p> <p>A tax work-off program for veterans (of any age) has been proposed. There are questions about who will administer the program and the source of the funds.</p> <p>The Simple Solutions Expo was fabulous with between 45 and 50 people attending each speaker's presentation. About 150 people attended. Julie will not hold it in April again because of the difficulty of getting enough publicity in competition with town elections. The electronic recycling was a great success. Police were called to handle the traffic back-up. Celebration Church sent 23 volunteers. The Volunteer luncheon went very well; volunteer appreciation gifts are pay by a state grant. There will be no cook-out this year. Upcoming programs include two brown bag speakers, one talking about the Red Sox and the second from the MGH Museum followed by a tour to the ether dome, and three summer concerts. The COA received a donation of \$1,500 in memory of Bob and Ginny Megson.</p> <p>The Personnel Board is requesting reviews of all employees; Julie's is due in February. The COA is moving forward with online registration. Space continues to be an issue. Julie is looking for space to lease for on-going programs. Becky gave contact information for Church of the Holy Spirit and Mary suggested looking into Peace Lutheran Church, which will close its nursery school in June.</p> <p>Shawna Levine is organizing and dispatching the van, which is making a number of trips including trips to the MFA, Davis Museum, and Harvard Square. A trip to the Worcester Museum of Art was suggested. Movies continue to draw large crowds.</p>
ACTION	It was agreed to keep the tax work-off stipend at \$500 for 62 hours of work (50 positions).

MINUTES

BOARD

DISCUSSION	The minutes of April 1, 2013 were reviewed.
ACTION	The minutes were approved unanimously (Yurkofsky/Onello).

OTHER

DISCUSSION	<p>Julie said Harriet, Denise, and Bill S. are up for reappointment for a three-year term. The vacancy created when Betsy resigned is a one-year term. Harriet would like to take the one-year slot and then retire from the board.</p> <p>Harriet reminded the board that it is time to appoint a Nominating Committee. She and Mary will bring a slate to the next meeting.</p>
ACTION	

ADJOURNMENT

DISCUSSION	The next meeting will be June 4, 2013 at 7 pm.
ACTION	The meeting was adjourned.