

Wayland Council on Aging

MINUTES

JANUARY 21, 2014

4:30PM

SENIOR CENTER

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

Agenda topics: Meeting Convened at 4:37pm

MINUTES

BOARD

DISCUSSION	
ACTION	The minutes of December 2, 2013 were deferred.

COA MISSION STATEMENT

BOARD

DISCUSSION	<p>The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the mission of the COA so that members can make educated decisions. The COA provides support and education for seniors to enable them to live independently. It is not adult day care.</p> <p>Bill provided an update on options being discussed related to a new senior center. One is to sell the current town building and buy or lease space from the developer of the new town center for a combined retail and town office space, including a senior center. The gym would need to be replaced and space found for the Children's Way. A second option is to add to the day care center and connect it to a new gym. This might be financed by using the developer's \$3 million gift to the town. Several options are being considered for the library: leaving the library at its current location and using space at the town center for special library programming, moving the library to the current DPW space, or putting a combined library-COA facility at the DPW. Bill said there was also a plan to build a 20,000sf space for the COA and a 30,000sf space for town offices with a bridge between but this option lacks sufficient parking.</p> <p>Julie would like a map showing where current seniors reside to help determine transportation needs.</p> <p>The day care center is 13,000sf compared to the COA's current 2,500sf. To prove the need, we should add in the other spaces the COA uses regularly, like the hearing and other town building spaces, gym, and the church.</p> <p>Bill said that these ideas need to be refined into a single plan that can be sold as a package to the town at a fall Town Meeting. The senior center would be built first, followed by a recreation facility. There is discomfort with a long-term lease with the current developer but he is expected to flip the development once it is complete.</p> <p>The mission discussion continued. The COA serves all residents in town who have elder concerns and works to improve seniors' quality and enjoyment of life and independence.</p> <p>Bill listed a number of things he thought the COA could do, such as</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • inviting all kinds of groups to meet in COA space or swap skills: e.g., knitters: yarn and pattern swaps, craft shows; musical group: practice space • hosting intergenerational activities: seniors helping kids learn crafts; digital camera and software workshops; making videos; high school students teaching memoir writing • offering theater arts, writing, and advanced computer workshops, hiking/walking groups, music workshops, etc. <p>The theme might be "connections" or "developing oneself." Because of the small staff, the COA might serve as a clearing house or resource center.</p>
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ACTION	Julie will work with the ideas mentioned to update the mission statement and present it at a future meeting.
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TRANSPORTATION

JULIE SECORD

DISCUSSION	Julie is working with the MWRTA to plan a Route 20 bus route. She can use the COA van to take people to MWRTA hubs.
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ACTION	
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ADJOURNMENT

DISCUSSION	The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 25, 2014 at 7 pm.
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ACTION	The meeting was adjourned.
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