

# Wayland Council on Aging

## MINUTES

JANUARY 6, 2015

8:00AM

SELECTMEN'S MEETING ROOM

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	Betsy Soule, Chair
<b>NOTE TAKER</b>	Mary Antes, Secretary
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	COA Board Members Present: Betsy Soule, Chair; Mary Antes, Carol Glick, Nancy Leifer, Becky Patterson, Ellen Scult, Bill Sterling COA Board Members Absent: Evelyn Ekmejian, Denise Yurkofsky <u>Director:</u> Julie Secord <u>Guests:</u> Don Bustin
<b>PUBLIC COMMENT</b>	There was no public comment.

### Agenda topics: Meeting Convened at 8:10am

#### MINUTES

BOARD

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The minutes of December 9 <sup>th</sup> were considered.
<b>ACTION</b>	It was moved, seconded, and unanimously voted to approve the minutes of December 9 <sup>th</sup> (Leifer/Scult).

#### BAY PATH

CAROL GLICK

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Carol said there are two new Federal programs funded through the state: one to help keep seniors in their homes and the second, a pilot program to provide intensive case management for people who resist treatment. There will be a training session for new members of the Bay Path board later this month.
<b>ACTION</b>	Carol will forward to the Council the Bay Path summary highlighting the monthly activities.

#### FRIENDS OF THE COA

MARY ANTES AND NANCY LEIFER

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The Friends will not meet again until later in January.
<b>ACTION</b>	

#### COA/COMMUNITY CENTER ADVISORY COMMITTEE

BILL STERLING

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Bill said the committee has recommended a two-step process and drafted a warrant article for the annual town meeting (ATM) requesting \$150,000 for civil engineering, drainage, 21E, and other studies. These studies will determine whether a combined COA/community center could meet the Conservation Commission and other regulatory requirements at the municipal pad site. If there is sufficient money, a design firm could review the program needs of both the COA and recreation departments and develop cost estimates for mechanical, electrical, and plumbing. The second step would be to request \$350,000 at a fall town meeting for the preparation of bid documents. If all goes well, the third step would be to request construction funds at the 2016 ATM.  Carol asked about the contamination concerns; Bill said the study will provide answers to those concerns.
<b>ACTION</b>	The committee will present their recommendations to the Selectmen on Monday night.

#### PERSONNEL BOARD

JULIE SECORD

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	Julie reported that the Personnel Board approved the COA's request for an 18 hour/week position, the only new personnel request recommended. If approved, the staff would increase from 2.8 to 3.3 FTEs. Weston has a staff of more than 5 for a smaller senior population.
<b>ACTION</b>	The request will go to the Finance Committee for further consideration.

**VALOR ACT**

JULIE SECORD

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The Valor Act proposes a tax work-off program for Veterans of all ages. Julie is not sure how it will operate in Wayland. In some communities, the assessing department handles the tax work-off program. Mary said the Selectmen's packet included a draft warrant article requesting \$15,000 for 30 Veterans.
<b>ACTION</b>	An article will be included in the ATM Warrant.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

JULIE SECORD

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>There is increased scrutiny of unused budget funds being turned back at the end of the fiscal year. The COA has two variables. One is the tax work-off program (see solution below) and the second is postage. This year, Julie is more concerned about over-spending the postage line item because she is considering an informational mailing about what the COA does, similar to a four-page Springwell mailing. It was suggested that the Friends might be willing to fund the mailing.</p> <p>The existing tax work-off program has not been fully subscribed because of privacy concerns and the amount of paperwork. There is enough money remaining for a second round. There was consensus that notifying all current participants of the possibility of working additional hours would be fair. If there were more than seven people interested, the second round could be for 31 hours rather than 62 and if more than 14 people were interested, it would go to a lottery. It would be difficult for new participants to complete the paperwork and the required work hours before the March 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.</p> <p>Wayland, Lincoln, and Weston received a collaborative grant from MCOA and Tufts to fund the Aging Mastery Program, a 12-week program that will be hosted by Weston since Wayland cannot guarantee space for the full 12 weeks. The program is federally funded and distributed by MCOA and Tufts. The program is free and includes a nutritious continental breakfast. Wayland will provide transportation to Weston. In January, there will be a training in Concord for the program, which will begin March 11<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p>Maureen will be leaving her volunteer coordinator position. This grant-funded position is 15 to 18 hours per week. Julie asked the Council to get the word out. If putting feelers out does not bring forth a good candidate, she will try a more formal process. Meanwhile, Shawna will increase her hours in the short term.</p>
<b>ACTION</b>	<p>Julie will run the idea of a second round of tax work-off opportunities by Town Counsel.</p> <p>The Council voted unanimously to support the letter drafted by the Senior Tax Relief Committee asking our legislators to review and update M.G.L. chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C, the asset limits for exemptions (Sterling/Antes). The committee will request support from the board of Selectmen.</p>

**ADJOURNMENT**

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 3, 2015 at 8 am.
<b>ACTION</b>	The meeting was adjourned at 9:06.

Materials handed out at the meeting:

- Agenda
- Minutes of December 9, 2014
- Annual Town Report
- Draft Letter to Legislators Re: M.G.L. chapter 59, Section 5, Clause 41C
- Wayland COA News newsletter