

SENIOR TAX RELIEF COMMITTEE

MINUTES

APRIL 12 2017

7PM

WAYLAND TOWN BUILDING

FACILITATOR	Rebecca MacGregor Chair
NOTE TAKER	Julie Secord, Director Council On Aging
ATTENDEES	<u>COA Board Members Present:</u> Linwood Bradford, Joan Bradford, Pauline DiCesare Rebecca MacGregor <u>COA Board Members Absent:</u> Anne Gilbert, Steve Colella <u>Also Attending:</u> <u>COA Director:</u> Julie Secord
PUBLIC COMMENT	No one in attendance to comment

Agenda Topics: Meeting Convened at 7:05pm

MINUTES

BOARD

DISCUSSION	The minutes of February 8, 2017 were reviewed.
ACTION	The minutes of February 8, 2017 were reviewed and approved unanimously. (JBradford, SColella).

MCOA PROPERTY TAX FORCE UPDATE

BRADFORD,J / BRADFORD, L

DISCUSSION	Joan and Linwood presented an overview of recommendations from their Feb. 28, 2017 MCOA Task Force Meeting in Westwood. Discussion included recommendations for reducing housing costs for seniors by augmenting property tax relief programs (statutory exemptions, Circuit Breaker), establishing low interest deferred home repair loan programs and protecting elders age 65+ from tax title auctions.
ACTION	

STATUTORY EXEMPTIONS INFORMATION CARDS

REBECCA MACGREGOR

DISCUSSION	The Committee continued to work on the information cards, starting with Clause 41C and 17d ...and leaving Clause 22 and 19 until the end. The Committee updated old information and created consistency with format and wording. All cards will be reviewed by Assessing Director, Ellen Brideau before publication.
ACTION	

COA DIRECTOR UPDATE

JULIE SECORD

DISCUSSION	The Director Indicated that Senator Ross and Rep. Carmine Gentile's Senior Circuit Breaker Tax Credit Seminar with featured speaker Brian Lynch from the Mass. Dept. of Revenue had been offered on March 6 th at 11:30am. Although it was not an overly large group in attendance, the presentation was recorded for WayCam so residents could access the information on-line. As always Brian Lynch was a highly informative and engaging speaker. Julie also indicated that the Tax Preparers were fully booked with appointments. Toward the end the COA could not accommodate the numbers calling in to have the returns completed. They were referred to other Towns. Julie also mention the continued lack of awareness of so many tax preparers locally who are completely unaware of the state's Circuit Breaker tax credit MATCH in Wayland..
ACTION	

ESTABLISH NEXT MEETING DATE/TIME

JULIE SECORD

DISCUSSION	The next Senior Tax Relief Meeting will be Wednesday, June 21, 7pm.
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ACTION

ADJOURNMENT

DISCUSSION

ACTION **The meeting was adjourned at 8:40.**

Materials handed out at the meeting:

- Agenda
- Feb. 8, 2017 Minutes
- MCOA Tax Relief Task Force Packet