

Council on Aging Board of Directors Meeting

January 17, 2019, 9:00 a.m.

231 Maple Road Longmeadow, MA 01106

Present: Executive Director Jim Leyden, Chair Julie Moulton, Vice Chair George Shea, Secretary Ellie Tyson, Marybeth Bergeron, John Bowen, Saul Finestone, Phil Hallahan, Marilyn Hurst, Rose Morace, Marge Morgan, Elenor Stolar, Judy Yaffe, Theresa Yesu.

Absent: Fran Miffitt, Jay Leib.

Guest: Robyn Frechette

Welcome: Meeting called to order at 9:02 a.m.

Approval of Minutes: A question on the vote for the shop in the new building under section A. Select Board 3 – 2 not to be in plan; the question was the vote 4 – 1 not to be in the plan. It remains 3 -2. The minutes were then approved.

Reports:

a. **Select board:** There will be a special town meeting tonight at 7:00 p.m. Please all try to attend. The amendment is allowing for the recall of elected officials, except for select board officials. It will be a ballot vote.

b. **States Representative office:** There is a huge turnover in the house, with many open slots. More information will be available next month. The bill, to help build senior centers died in the house. We have to wait and see if it will be brought up again.

c. **Director's report:** Jim passed out the January COA Department report as well as information on the new bus we will be getting.

d. **Treasurers Report:** Jim stated things are holding steady and we are in line. He passed out the report to all members. The revolving account continues to grow. Judy wondered could we donate to our fund accounts. The answer is no. We need to think of ways to raise funds as we won't have the shop. We, as a nonprofit are unable to fund raise.

e. **FOLOCA:** Their last meeting was January 8th. They have \$123,000 in their accounts. There was a discussion regarding helping to fund the van, but they were not going to do anything at this time. The annual letter was sent to all seniors asking for donations. The shop could stay here, FOLOCA might have to pay rent to run it.

f. **GSSSI:** Fran was not available.

g. **Building Committee:** Marybeth indicated there was good news and bad news. During the site work, asbestos was found under the tennis courts. The pool parking lot has to also be tested. The DPW asbestos has to be moved to a location in the Meadows. There is a lot of unknown at this time. Trying to get together with the OPM and the architect. May will be the date to break ground for the facility. A petition is going around regarding the Maple Tree Shop by FOLOCA. Next Thursday a building committee meeting at 7:00 p.m. at the fire station.

h. **Advocacy:** We could use money in the fund balances to furnish rooms in the new center as funds are short.

Old Business:

a. Good news regarding a program position. The position is starting with 30 hours, will become a full time position with the idea of 35 hours in the future.

b. **Update:** New COA van; It is new, called a bus instead of a van with more seating. We could have per diem drivers. Has 12 seats; 2 handicaps; 14 in all without wheelchairs. A question if we could offer trips for veterans to Leeds, MA. We could possibly get revenue to help run the van. A discussion on the new center; we could get funds for renting out the gym, or meeting rooms. If it is a function of the town, they don't pay to reserve a space.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 am.

Respectively submitted

Ellie Tyson, Secretary