

Council on Aging Board of Directors Meeting

February 21, 2019

231 Maple Road Longmeadow, MA 01106

Present: Executive Director Jim Leyden, Chair Julie Moulton, Secretary Ellie Tyson, Saul Finestone, Marge Morgan, Fran Miffitt, Judy Yaffe, Theresa Yesu, Select Board Liaison Marie Angelides

Absent: Vice Chair George Shea, Marybeth Bergeron, John Bowen, Phil Hallahan, Marilyn Hurst, Rose Morace, Eleanor Stolar, Jay Leib.

Guest: Robyn Frechette

Welcome: Meeting called to order at 9:00am.

Approval of Minutes: We did not have a quorum and were unable to vote on the minutes.

Reports:

a. **Select board:** Information on the town meeting in the spring. There is a town audit. Regarding the new center, the design is up 90%; we need to be up 100% in order to get the \$800,000 from the state. The bid will be in March for construction.

b. **States Representative office:** Robyn passes out information on legislation relating to seniors. Representative Ashe has been appointed to Vice Chair of the joint committee on export development. He has filed a budget amendment for a generator for the new center.

c. **Director's report:** The center has been approved for grant money in the amount of \$125,000 for the Home Modification Program, elevating it for larger things instead of minor issues. Also, a discussion on a neighbor to neighbor program along with Glenmeadow for getting seniors out of their homes to be with other people. We have a list of people who might need help in case of an emergency. Erin, our Outreach Coordinator, works with the fire and police departments for emergency situations.

d. **Treasurers Report:** Jim stated we are up to date and in good standing with everything. Town line items are fine. We use grant money on food services. Revolving account money is also used for food costs. We are trying to build a nest egg; received \$2,000 from GSSSI also for food services. Jim is also pleased with the response to the evening programs.

e. **FOLOCA:** Met on Tuesday and discussed programs they are going to support. There was also discussion regarding a petition of a change in the design of the new building excluding the Maple Tree Shop. Marie noted that we could have to go back to another ballot question. Two hundred people have signed and a special town meeting has been called. We will lose the \$800,000 grant. We are not sure if we could apply again.

f. **GSSSI:** Have hired new case managers with higher wages for all. There is a new client service department where upon entering the hospital whatever your diagnosis will be reported to all agencies. All hospitals are now involved in it.

g. **Building Committee:** Marybeth unable to be here.

h. **Advocacy:** Eleanor not here.

Old Business:

a. Program coordinator position- Jim stated there are 2 applicants to be interviewed and hopefully one will be the new coordinator.

b. **Update: New COA van;** The van has been ordered and will be here in June. The cost is \$50,000 - \$65,000 from Representative Ashe, \$15,000 from the Landis Trust.

Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 am.

Respectively submitted

Ellie Tyson, Secretary