

Council on Aging Board of Directors Meeting

April 19, 2018

Present: Executive Director Jim Leyden, Chair Julia Moulton, Secretary Ellie Tyson, Marybeth Bergeron, Saul Finestone, John Bowen, Marilyn Hurst, Frances Miffitt, Marge Morgan, Eleanor Stolar, Judy Yaffe, Select Board Liaison Marie Angelides.

Absent: Theresa Yesu, Phil Hallahan, George Shea, Rose Morace.

Guest: Robin Frechette

- I. **Welcome:** The meeting was called to order at 9:30 a.m.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** The March minutes were approved.
- III. **Reports:**
 - a. **Select Board:** Marie stated as far as a new middle school in town it would be 4 or 5 years out. There will be a question at the town meeting as to what you can park in your driveway. Need to find ways to get people we know to be for the new center, to attend the meeting on the 8th.
 - b. **State Representative's Office:** Robin stated that nothing has moved or changed with the bills. There are a lot of requests for funds for new senior centers.
 - c. **Director's Report:** Jim passed out both the treasurers and department reports. The programs have been well received. We are getting close to year end financials and he feels we should come out ok
 - d. **Treasurer's Report:** Jim passed out report.
 - e. **FOLOCA:** There was no meeting; did not have a quorum for the meeting.
 - f. **GSSSI:** Fran said at the last meeting they were served a meal that went out to meals on wheels clients. She stated that there are 6 weeks to go for grant monies to be available.
 - g. **Building committee:** No report at this time.
 - h. **Program Committee:** Fran said they will continue on with the kinds of programs that peak interest. Judy believes a meeting should be held between our Activities Coordinator, Elayne Ayan and the JCC (Jewish Community Center). We need to collaborate between the two. John would like to volunteer to meet with their coordinator at eh JCC to discuss the possibilities of joint programing.
 - i. **Advocacy:** Eleanor turned in the names of people who signed for the newspaper ad.

IV. **Old Business:**

- a. Title III Grant Update: Jim stated the request for funding our nutrition program is for \$25,000 per year for 2019-2021.
- b. Revolving Account: Jim met with Assistant Town Manager and FOLOCA to discuss establishing a revolving fund for the Council on Aging.
- c. Jim stated the annual report has been submitted.

V. **New Business:** Annual Town Meeting:

Getting as many seniors as we can to the meeting on May 8th.

New Marketing and Fundraising plan: The "PAC" is named Committee for a Longmeadow Adult Community Center. The PAC political action committee consists of Judy as chair; Julie as treasurer.

Saul spoke from the nominating committee consisting of Saul, Eleanor and Ellie and we will come up with a slate for our meeting in May. Julie stated she would be willing to fill out her term; we do need a vice chair. Please let one of the committee know if you are interested in any of the posts.

Fran stated that we need to decide is it to be called an adult center or a senior center? She feels it should be called a senior community center. Marybeth has met with many of our town residents and community groups to advertise the new center. The COA board needs to write letters to the editor to the Reminder showing support. Marybeth went to the rules committee meeting and felt they were very respectful to Eleanor who is on the committee. She learned many things about the town meeting; we are allowed to have a table inside showing information of the new center. We can also pass out information by the door into the High School before the meeting. A list of talking points for people to know:

1. Change in demographics
2. Out of a total of 15,300 residents, 4,509 are over 65. We represent 30% of the town population.
3. Current building is unsuitable for seniors
4. Not ADA compliant and too small to meet the growing demographics
5. Non HIPPA compliant
6. Annual property taxes would increase .48 cents per thousands

Another meeting is planned in 2 weeks- May 3rd at 9:30 am.

VI. **Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 11:1 am.

Respectfully submitted,
Ellie Tyson