

Scituate Council on Aging
Board of Directors Meeting
May 11, 2017
Scituate Senior Center

Present: Chairman John Miller; Vice-Chairman Gordon Price; Board Members Dale Balog, Leslie James, Janice Lindblom, Janice Desmond, Helen Jablonski, Audrey Reidy; Liaisons: FOSS Bette Johnson, SCOD Elaine Schembari and John McLaughlin (SCOD Chair), SSES Joan Powers, Selectman Marty O'Toole; SCOA Director Linda Hayes, Administrative Assistant Jill Johnston. Not Present: Lucille Sorrentino

Meeting Called to Order at 5:30 pm

Minutes of April 13, 2017 accepted by the Board.

Marty O'Toole spoke re: his resignation effective June 6, 2017. He was elected in 2013 and is in the first year of his second term. Marty feels that due to family commitments that may take him out of state he feels that he cannot do the job properly. Marty chose to be the liaison to the COA and wanted to work towards a new senior center. He spoke of the hard work that the COA and FOSS is doing towards a new center. John Miller thanked Marty for all the time and effort he has put in to date.

Director's Report:

- The COA received another grant from the HPHC Foundation. A Scituate resident had applied and \$500 will be put toward a program.
- The Feasibility Study of the four potential sites for a Senior Center is ongoing. It is a "nuts and bolts" analysis of the four sites. The study is engineering oriented. It is due to the BOS by the end of June.
- Transportation hired a new PT driver and he will be on the schedule in June. He has already had a few days of driving and he might fill in a couple of times in May. The 14 person van is at GATRA for repairs but may be switched with a more suitable van like a 10-12 person. The 8-10 person van is not as good.
- Seniorities last segment aired the end of April with Jeanne and the next episode will be with Laura Minier and programs with Lisa Thornton in June.
- The SHCB will be used for single classes in June once the Library is out. Using the building will help with expanding programs.
- Pickle-Ball's procedural protocol has been updated thanks to Bette Johnson in order to manage the games and everyone enjoys their time. Beginning June 30 Pickle-Ball it will be held Friday mornings at 9:00am. A small fee may be considered due to the program being

much larger. Elaine asked if currently there are two days that Pickle-Ball is played. Linda replied that it is but due to use-of-buildings (Jenkins Gym) during the day it is restricted.

- Our intern Kayla ended on 4/26. It was great having her and Linda may consider having another intern in the future.
- There are two tax work-off placements at the center.
- Linda requested a change of hours for the summer to 8:00-4:00 but because of the unions for the staff it became difficult. It may be approved. Seniors are coming in early and it may be helpful to be here earlier in the morning. Linda feels that seniors enjoy the earlier programs.

Upcoming Programs:

- On May 12 the Mother's Day Brunch/Celebration will be followed by screening of the movie *Hidden Figures*. Staff are using the certified kitchen.
- Cafe Talk with Herb Crehan (Red Sox Historian, Author of 2 books) will talk about the '67' Red Sox. Linda was concerned that the announcement submitted to the Mariner has not been published. She hopes to fill the space, about 50 people, at the Senior Center. Linda asked Jim Lonborg if he was interested to attend but he is out of the country.
- State Senator Patrick O'Connor will be speaking at the Men's Breakfast at the North River Grill at Widow's Walk. It will be held June 5. Men's Breakfast is held the first Monday of the month.
- Volunteer Celebration will be Tuesday, June 20.
- July 4th barbecue will be in June 30.
- Vivienne Leonard will be added to the COA program offerings in September due to her popularity in the community. She has previously taught through the community education program but it is ending.

Budget Discussion:

- Accounting documents generated by Jill Johnston. There is a new system which the staff is getting comfortable with. Jill/Linda are getting used to the new format and how to get reports that generate the information they are looking for. The packet handed out includes the four revolving accounts at the COA. Gifts/Donations, Senior Programs, Formula Grant, GATRA (made a revolving account last year).
- The current balance for the Gifts/Donations is \$48,682 as of this date. Some donations that come in are earmarked for certain programs, i.e. the HPHC donation.

- The Senior Programs account is heavily used, compared to the Gifts/Donations. A negative balance is shown which may be because of the new accounting system. \$3,500 is the current balance. \$21,000 came in. The money for programs comes in and then goes right out to the instructors, \$4/pp for example. Dale Balog asked if the instructors have taxes taken out by the town. The instructors do get a 1099 for tax purposes. The Formula Grant figures show that the COA has extended itself, usually when purchasing equipment or supplies that are not reimbursed. \$8,000 is available instead of \$12,000.
- Linda provided a copy of the recently submitted revisions for the Formula Grant. (see handout). Supported by this grant is the newsletter, conferences, volunteer celebration and staff training.
- GATRA is another account. Paid from that account are driver salaries, portion of Jean's and Linda's salaries, operation and maintenance of vans/buses, equipment, and use of 3rd party services. If this account was low services would have to be cut, but that has not been the case.

Departmental Reports submitted by Linda

- **Activities:** Highlights listed i.e. trail walking group, Blithewold Mansion, MFA; number of participants (duplicated/unduplicated) listed; volunteer hours, including Board Members, were 133.25 total for the month of April.
- **Outreach:** Total client interactions for the month of April was 65. Number of seniors assisted was 17. Jenny goes to the four housing authorities 1x/month. Intern went on visits with Jenny.
- **Transportation:** GATRA meeting yesterday with 28 communities it serves. The SLOOP ridership is up which may impact the COA/GATRA but numbers were about the same from last year.

Liaison Updates:

- **SSES:** The meeting 4/2, always the first Tuesday of the month. The Governor's Executive Order created a council addressing aging in Ma. Age 65 and over will make up 23% of the population. Staff at SSES addressed leadership is good and training is ongoing. Community partnership with the Veterans is growing. SSES Communicates with the Legislature through their representative. Someone from SSES went to all the COAs to compare services and what each one is doing. SCO works with MassHealth and information was given on that program. Board Training done by Linda Kelly on nutrition which covers MOWs. SSES is financially in good shape. MOWs continue at the Methodist church every Monday, Wednesday and Friday noon to 1:30pm. There are 14-16 people and we are always looking for more help. Dale Balog asked if anyone can go to the church to help but Joan explained that all volunteers need to go through SSES. The volunteer luncheon is 6/21 and the picnic at Nantasket Beach is 8/17. The dinner at St. Luke's is 5/28 at 5:00 pm.

- **COD:** Mass Office on Disability (MOD) call for Art and there were pictures submitted by SHS IXCEL program. Gail Verasso is the head of that program; COD is looking at hosting a forum in the late fall/early November for all disabled/handicapped people from the community as well as parents. Multiple organizations will be asked to attend with their resources; Forms are still being worked on through the SFD and enhanced 911. The new form should be available online in mid-June; Dale Balog mentioned that the MBTA was planning on budget cuts, specifically the RIDE but people spoke out and there was no cut.
- **FOSS:** The Golf Tournament is 6/16 and there is still room for golfers and volunteers. The Memorial Day Parade, in front of Richardson-Gaffey FH we will be offering coffee and any donations received by Richardson-Gaffey will go to FOSS. The transfer station was successful. We met and talked with a lot of people and felt more support from the citizens. Gordon added that he estimated that 45-60% of the people they met were in support of a new Senior Center.
- **SCOD Chairman John McLaughlin:** John wanted to thank the COA for their work and assistance by Linda for the upcoming forum would be appreciated. The transition report and the way to get it done right is to have a self-evaluation. Without a self-eval there would be a complaint with ensuing fines. COA has issues that were not "brought into light". Elaine and John could do the self-eval and then you would have a certified document that could be showed to the state. The Senior Center is not being addressed as it should. Gordon Price asked where the report would end up and John stated that it would be at town hall. On July 15 grant money from the state will become available and the COD has been trying to access those funds to help with access for beaches, dog park, docks (for getting in/out of boats). There are 4 out of the 5 issues from the last visit that have been addressed. Linda and John will schedule a visit by mid-July for a transition report; The Able Act was passed this past week that allows disabled to save money and not be penalized by Medicaid.

Board Business:

- Term expirations: Lucille Sorrentino, John Miller and Gordon Price's terms are up for renewal. If they all want to renew there would not be openings. They have to submit to the BOS for reappointment. There is a 2-term limit. A decision needs to be made in the next six weeks. Once the new year begins in July, there should be a new Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary voted on. Linda handed out organizational papers to assist Board members. Sub-Committees could be started to review the by-laws, for example, or an event that the Board sponsors in the interest of the community. Linda listed potential names/purposes of committees. Dale Balog asked Janice Lindblom for clarification on whether or not she would be able to serve on the Board if she wins the election for School Committee. Janice had already clarified with the Town Clerk and she can serve both. Janice Desmond volunteered to look at the Board by-laws.
- Board member Audrey Reidy announced her resignation from the Board beginning July 1.

Meeting adjourned at 6:56 pm.

Submitted by Janice Lindblom