

## **Council on Aging, Board of Directors, November 14, 2012**

### **Scituate Council on Aging Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

November 14, 2012

Attendees: Pam Davis- Chairman, Florence Choate- Director, Dale Balog, Rocky Carrabes, Jim Harmon, Joan Powers and Audrey Reidy.

The meeting was called to order at 6:00PM and the board was introduced. Minutes of the October 10th meeting were accepted as written.

#### **Staff and Directors Reports by Florence Choate:**

**Directors Report-** the center is very busy in all areas and two new classes, conversational Italian and Pilates, have started. The COA is planning for the annual health fair which takes place on April 26th, 2013. There will be a Medicare program on Medicare Fraud and Waste on January 15th of 2013; both events will be held at the Harbor Community Building. Social Services is busy with office visits and fuel assistance. There are only 2 vans on the road now because of repairs to be made for taking Seniors to their appointments. There is an ongoing need for volunteers to drive people to out-of-town chemo and other treatments. **PROGRAMS:** With the aid of extra volunteers, the newsletter was sent out in one day to the 2700 recipients. We are trying to get the newsletter out to the nursing homes and dr. offices for those not on the mailing list or who have family that might be interested in the COA. The director would like to involve the seniors at Life Care and Cardigan, perhaps with a monthly article featuring a resident. Mrs. Choate is also reaching out to the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts, getting them involved, perhaps sending cards to the residents, as there are some who have no family to pay attention to them. The monies raised at the November craft fair will go to the town's Veteran's Agent who will use the money for veterans who need fuel assistance.

**TRANSPORTATION:** Rides for October were 552-daily, 88-Link rides, 0 MAP rides, 12- volunteer rides, for a total of 652. Sept. total was 605. Van mileage was 1301. Vans are now being gassed up at the DPW site instead of the local gas station which saves the COA considerable money.

**SOCIAL SERVICES:** 5- home visits, 32- office visits, 1- meeting attended, 72- telephone calls, 25- referrals made, 122- repeat clients, 60- new clients. Social Services coordinators met with the Life Care admission coordinator, Susan Sheehan. They are in Scituate and many residents prefer staying in town if they need rehab or nursing home services. Mrs. Choate would like to see more involvement with nursing homes, having people visit the residents as do Joan Powers and Mary O'Connor. It's hard getting students involved with the elderly, despite the community service credit they could earn. The COA no longer sends out "Friendly Visitors" to people's homes as the seniors don't want them. Pam Davis volunteered to deliver the newsletters to the dr. offices and nursing homes.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Pam Davis asked if the phone problem and lack of a defibrillator had been resolved at the Harbor Community Building. They have not, which is of great concern as more and more Seniors are attending classes and events there. Cell phone service is sketchy at best in the harbor and it's an ideal place for a disaster if someone falls ill or has an accident and there is NO ability to call 911. There are some programs the director keeps at the COA in order to insure the safety of those who attend. Mrs. Choate will contact Kevin Kelly about the problem. The health fair committee will have a meeting on 12/4/12 to get things started. Ms. Davis had heard from Richard Mitchell that he hadn't been informed of any upcoming meeting of the master plan feasibility committee. He is representing the COA. Hopefully now that the feasibility study for a new junior high passed at the town meeting, things might get going.

**NEW BUSINESS:** NONE

**South Shore Elder Services:** Joan Powers reported that the SSES finances had been approved. They held their 35th annual meeting and awards dinner on November 8th.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:35PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Pam Davis

ADDENDUM TO COA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES OF 11/14/12

Agenda and minutes of the October meeting are available at the Town Clerk's office.

Staff and Director reports are available at the COA, 27 Brook St.