

Scituate Council on Aging  
Board of Directors Meeting  
**January 12, 2017**  
Scituate Senior Center

Present: Chairman John Miller, Vice-Chairman Gordon Price, Board Members: Dale Ba-log, Leslie James, Janice Lindblom, Audrey Reidy, Desmond, Lucille Sorrentino; Director Linda Hayes Liaisons: SSES Joan Powers, SCOD Chairperson John McLaughlin, FOSS/SCOD Elaine Schembari; Jenny Gerbis Outreach Coordinator for COA; BOS Liaison Marty O'Toole

Not Present: Helen Jablonski,

Meeting called to order at 5:36

Meeting minutes from December approved by the Board.

Directors Report presented by Linda Hayes:

- The Holiday gathering with entertainment provided by Lynda Chuckran (Welch Companies) and John Roser (SCTV). Luncheon catered by Linda Collins of Duxbury.
- Community Spirit Mini-Grant of \$550 provided by Harvard Pilgrim Healthcare Foundation Nurse Care Manager Christine Underhill-Dunn.
- Emergency Preparedness Presentation was held on 1/11/17 with Jeff Dougan, Assistant Director for Community Services as well as the Massachusetts Office on Disability. Other agencies involved were SANDS, Animal Control, Animal Shelter and the Scituate Fire Dept. Mr. Dougan also spoke at the SCOA Health Fair.
- Office Updates: Friendly Visitor Program training is scheduled for 1/20/17 at the COA.
- There have been four proposals received for Scituate's RFQ for the Feasibility Study for a potential senior center location and two have been chosen by the Public Facilities Committee for interviews on 1/17/17.

- Linda has placed a Tax Work-off volunteer at the SCOA one day a week. JD inquired as to the amount earned. Volunteers can make up to \$1,000 for up to 100 hours at \$10/hr.
- CPR training was provided by Mark Donovan of the Fire Dept. on 12/28 for all staff and drivers. Staff is encouraged to be certified every two years. Drivers are required to be certified. An AED is on site at the COA.
- The COA is looking to hire another PT driver due to limited availability. The 14-person van may be turned in after repairs due to limited use.
- FY2018 budget for the COA was approved by the TA. Linda has an interview with the Advisory Cmte. on 3/2/17 and then the BOS 3/7/17. She may include the budget at the next meeting.
- Sand Buckets for Seniors: The Senior Center/COA will be providing the buckets which will be completed soon. The Interact Club students are assisting. This was an idea from the EOEA. 50 buckets will be available.
- GATRA: SLOOP schedule was updated to include more stops as well as North Scituate. New schedules can be found at Town Hall, the Library, Lincoln Park, the COA and on the bus. Riders who cannot make it to the stop can call two hours ahead for pick-up.
- The SEF will hold a forum for interest in applying for grants beginning in March. Linda hopes to submit a grant and is looking for ideas as well.
- Upcoming Events: Friday, March 10 there will be Irish Music at the River Club. The entertainment will be provided by a trio of Irish Musicians. This is funded by a Scituate Cultural Council grant. The River Club has donated use of the venue and a buffet dinner. Doors open at 5:30 and music at 6-8pm. Cash bar and buffet dinner will be provided.

#### Social Services report for Oct/Nov/Dec 2016:

- Clients age 55+ served statistics
- Scituate Hoarding Response Team (SHRT) meets every other month. This is a multidisciplinary group. Discussions involved an event in March at the COA for community involvement.

- FVP training in January. Seven volunteers have signed up.
- Community Christmas: 31 seniors were submitted to receive a gift. 29 were able to receive a gift.
- AMP: Laura presented on maintaining social connections.
- Monthly Caregiver Support Group: Most members are dealing with issues related to SDAT or Dementia.

#### Outreach Coordinator:

- Monthly report for December 2016 submitted. SNAP and Fuel Assistance help tremendously for those in need in Scituate.
- Housing issues; can be of help applying at Scituate Housing Auth. or moving.
- Helping Seniors with Medicare Part D. Jenny was able to help some clients \$200-\$300/year. Advertised in the newsletter.
- Home Care: Private agencies that may see a client a couple of hours/day. List of agencies are available at the COA. Three names are offered for clients to call and compare prices/services.

#### Transportation:

- Report submitted for December 2016
- Rides include medical appointments as well as events offered at the COA.

#### Miscellaneous:

- Linda encouraged Board members to check in at the desk for a record of time spent by volunteers.
- Garden club provided their Boxwoods as the centerpiece at the Christmas Party luncheon.
- Yoga teacher is injured therefore classes are on hold.

#### Liaison Reports:

- **SSES:** Financially in good shape but MassHealth/Social Security/Medicare remains a concern with the new administration. ACA is also a concern. Disabled on-

ly get \$80/month. Alan Norman: AFC program will be cut \$5.6 million. \$22.4 million in cuts, loss of 9% of funding. MassHealth will receive a 10% rate cut. Bulletin stated new rates effective March 1st. SSES continues to work with the veterans at the VA Hospital. MOW continues to need assistance with meals and prep. St. Lukes dinner will be held 1/22/17.

- **FOSS:** 2017 event planning has begun. 4/1/17 there will be a spaghetti dinner at 5:00pm at the Congregational Church. FOSS appreciates the information in this month's newsletter, there are 3 new members. The SHBA donated \$1270 from the gingerbread house contest. On 6/16/17 the FOSS golf tournament will be held. Currently FOSS membership stands at 375.
- **SCOD:** Met with town officials to speak about their concerns. There is a second meeting at the end of the month. Projects currently being worked on are: HP bathroom at town hall; HP tickets (none over the past year); Mill Wharf is private property so there is no maintenance and no ticketing by police which is not true; fines need to be increased; with Recreation on self-evals and property/fields/facilities for ADA compliance; the Conservation Comm. (trails/lots); Tilden Trail on Tilden Rd has been cited by Architectural Access Board for non-compliance i.e. curb cuts in improper location, poles in the middle of sidewalk and they are not wide enough. It was pointed out by Marty O'Toole that the SPD needs to be called in order for it to be patrolled and HP spots are maintained. The Mill Wharf can call and report illegally parked patrons. John McLaughlin pointed out that the fines need to be increased from \$100 which is outdated. There has been positive feedback on GATRA changes.
- **BOS:** PSC and Library renovations are expected to be completed by February 2017. A triage center will be open for emergencies. A new Senior Center will be next on the schedule for the BOS. Marty will be meeting with Al Bangert for his thoughts. Al is the Special Projects Director. Lucille asked if the Community Building could be used as a temporary COA. Audrey stated that she thought the Comm. Bldg. was not an option. Gordon pointed out that the town is spending \$60,000 to look at sites in town for the Sr. Ctr. and that building is not one of them. The idea

of a new COA is gaining traction and he hopes it is not affected by the possible purchase of St. Francis, which is in terrible condition.

Guest Speaker: Donna Shecrallah, SSES Program Planner

- Directs grant opportunities which SCOA has been able to take advantage of.
- Area Agency on Aging (AAA) Planner: handout on planner overview.
- Title III; Asian Outreach Program; Family Caregiver Support Program; Information, Outreach and Referral (IOR)
- Handout on successful intakes and process for SSES programs.
- Explanation on grant process.
- SSES is in need of volunteers for administrative, money management/organization, FVP, MOW.
- Support group and training for FVP.
- MAP transportation comes from grant money through Donna's program. The money is pooled to be used by all the cities/towns serviced by SSES.
- Working closer with the interfaith community to better serve elders in need.

Presentation of Gifts:

- Sheila Reid (coordinator) and Joan Reid (winner); Afghan fundraiser raised \$800, \$400 for FOSS for new building fund and \$400 for Senior Center.

Old Business:

- Gordon mentioned the PBC will be interviewing two candidates on 1/17 at 6:30pm at town hall and later the committee will be voting which candidate for recommendation to TA. Members of the SABRC are invited to provide input but not vote.

*The Scituate COA is .4% of the town budget.*

Meeting adjourned at 7:08pm

Submitted by Janice Lindblom

