

Scituate Council on Aging
Board of Directors Meeting
March 9, 2017

Present: Chairman John Miller; Vice-Chairman Gordon Price; Board Members: Dale Balog, Leslie James, Janice Lindblom, Janice Desmond, Lucille Sorrentino, Helen Jablonski; COA Director Linda Hayes and Activities/Volunteer coordinator Lisa Thornton; Liaisons: Joan Powers (SSES), Elaine Schembari (FOSS/SCOD)

Not Present: Selectman Liaison Marty O'Toole; Board Member Audrey Reidy

Meeting called to order at 5:35pm

Directors Report

- Linda attended the SANDS meeting in February but missed March
- The St. Patrick's Day celebration sponsored by the SCC and the River Club will be tomorrow, March 10. The River Club is donating the buffet dinner and the venue.
- On March 8th at Senior Center Cafe Talk, the Grantham Group presented the proposal for 30 affordable housing units for age 62+ behind Central Park Housing. CPC funds have been approved for this project and it will not impede on the lot that could be used for a Senior Center. Steven Coulter from the Housing Authority explained it will be based on income. The CPC funds need a Town Meeting vote.
- Linda went on Safety Inspections this morning. Twelve people required inspection and smoke detectors are replace for free.
- The FVP training was held January 20. Visits are expected to start soon as well as more training dates held as volunteers come forward.
- An engineering firm was selected for the feasibility study and appeared before the BOS on February 7. Linda will be meeting with them to discuss COA program and facility requirements.
- There is an internal posting for a van driver on the Town website. There is a change in the fee requirement for local travel but no change in out-of-town medical appointments.
- FY2018 Budget: Linda met with the Advisory Committee on March 2 and the BOS on March 7. Jill's hours will increase by 10 to become full-time through the Formula Grant. There are

the usual increases in electric and trash pick-up. \$2000 has been ear-marked for the phone system upgrade to be in line with town hall.

- The kitchen was inspected by the BOH and the staff have completed the Allergen Training. Outside caterers need to register with the BOH and submit paperwork when delivering/serving food. One COA staff member who is certified in Allergens can be present.
- Patrick O'Connor, Bob Hedlund's replacement, will hold office hours the 3rd Thursday each month at 10:30am. Jim Cantwell also offers monthly meetings on the 4th Friday of the month.
- "Seniorities", the new SCTV show began last month and was hosted by Linda and JD Miller. Staff will discuss their roles/responsibilities and discuss community resources.
- "Sand Buckets for Seniors" were handed out. 25 were delivered and 50 were ordered. More buckets are available for those that want one.
- SEF grant is due the end of March. Some ideas are purchase of technology and intergenerational, musical instrument purchase and lessons or funding more lifelong learning programs.
- Joan Meschino (State Rep) is asking for help for a focus Group will be held on March 23 and will include Scituate, Hull, Cohasset and Hingham COAs. It will be held at the Cohasset Senior Center. Joan is looking for input from anyone has information on what seniors need. Anyone interested in attending can let Linda know.
- The Dana-Farber Mammography Van, in collaboration with the Cohasset Health Dept. will be at St. Luke's on April 13 from 8:00am-3:30pm. Those interested can call 617-632-1974.
- Linda, Jenny and Laura met with Ron Morganielli of Norwell Active Day for a tour and introduction of the program.
- St. Luke's will continue to be used through the end of May for activities until the library is done transitioning to the new building. The SHCB may be available for extra space for activities offered through the COA. More discussion can take place next month when Marty is back. The Senior Center being relocated once the Library vacates has been "tabled" for now. The SHCB will not be available until the end of May. How much money should be put in to it for the COA and how long would we be there.
- An intern from BSU/School of Social work will be starting next week on Monday and Wednesdays. She will be available for 5 weeks.

- Upcoming:
 - March 10: an Evening of Irish Music
 - March 24: trip to the Flower Show
 - April 3: Opening day. Hotdogs will be served at the COA.
 - May 17: Author Herb Crehan will present "Celebrating the Impossible Dream 1967 Red Sox: The Birth of Red Sox Nation. He was referred to the COA by Kim Ryan.
- **Outreach/Transportation/Activities &Volunteers Reports included in Director's Report**
 - Transportation: Duplicated numbers is "rides" not "riders"
 - Outreach: January/February combined reports
 - Activities/Volunteers: January/February; lots accomplished even with the weather; GATRA will assist with transportation to Flower Show and it was opened up to Norwell. JD pointed out that Lisa is always looking for volunteers.
- **Guest: Chief John Murphy, SFD**
 - The PSC has a communication center and dispatch and will be enhanced 911 in line with the State. The SFD will be in on the 15th and the SPD on the 20th. The Chief pointed out that the town has an on-line form for residents who may need MEMA help in the event of an emergency/natural disaster. The PSC will have a triage unit/room for walk-ins. Ambulance will be closer to residents in the West End. Public meeting space is available. Janice Desmond asked about and Chief Murphy explained the lights in front of the PSC. Flashing yellow will indicate the apparatus will be leaving the building. Flashing Red traffic will need to stop to allow the apparatus to exit the PSC.
- **Meeting minutes for January were accepted by the Board**
- **Liaison Reports**
 - SSES: The SSES meeting was held March 7 and 45 people were in attendance. Mike Ward presented insurance benefits for SSES employees. On February 17 there were no cuts for senior for home care, per Gov. Baker. He provided an additional \$4.49 million to the home care purchase account. There are 300 more clients at SSES and there is a retirement page on the website. In 2015 there were 47.8 million older adults in the US.

February 28 Mass Health signed a contract for FFS. Joan passed out a handout that was given to her by SSES, a "snapshot" of the programs in Scituate. March 26 is the St. Luke's dinner. Joan handed out to the Board Members the directory of available services/agencies for seniors/caregivers.

- FOSS: The FOSS golf tournament at Widow's Walk will be held June 16. Save-the-dates were sent out. April 1 is the spaghetti dinner at the Congregational Church at 5:00pm. Gordon asked if there will be fundraising at the dinner and Elaine reported that there will be raffles/drawings. Raffles are taxable but drawings are not.
- SCOD: There is a "Call for Art" for those over the age of 18. You do not have to be disabled. The juried are showing will be 2/1-8/1 and will be displayed at the Mass Office of Discrimination and online. SCOD is looking into the County Way/Tilden Rd sidewalks. They are being addressed by the town's legal counsel due to a complaint filed. GATRA will be piloting a program at the Jenkins School for after school programs/tutoring and providing transportation home for disabled students. Transportation will be provided for students that are sick and need a ride home as well as the caretaker to pick up the student. The COD will be funding it for Jenkins. Drivers are CORI/CPR certified. FOSS is looking for more collaboration between FOSS and the COA.

- **Old/New Business**

- "Senior Scene", a new column in the Mariner, is written by Dale Balog and will be published every other week.
- Gordon mentioned that Pickle-ball is available Monday and Wednesday at the Jenkins school and they are always looking for new players. All skill levels are present and all are welcome.
- Chief Stewart, SPD, will be asked to come to the next meeting.
- The COA Budget will be added next month.

In closing, JD Miller reported: "32% of the seniors in Scituate are over the age of 80"

Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm.

Submitted

Janice Lindblom