Minutes – COA Board Meeting on May 10, 2018

Meeting called to order at 5:30.

Introductions made; JD, Linda, Carol King, …, Joan Powers, Gordon Price, Leslie James, Lucille Sorrentino [Absent: Henry Yeh, Janice Desmond, Janice Lindblom, Helen Jablonski]

Minutes were reviewed for March and April. Vote to accept March. Vote to accept April.

JD transmitted Rotary Club’s donation to the Senior Center to Linda.

Director’s Report:

For update on Senior Center project, Linda reviewed process and meetings since Town Meeting approval. Public Building Commission interviewed 3 firms on May 8. Selection made of Joel Bargmann’s firm who conducted the Feasibility Study. Felt that Bargmann had the strongest presentation and had the most experience with Senior Center projects of the three that were interviewed and the 3 that were not invited to interviews. Discussion of possible timeline to Town Meeting in April 2019.

Logo variations presented with changes suggested by board members or staff. Linda conveyed process and preferences for primary choices, and indicated future additions as needed or appropriate. Gordon indicated idea for options remaining open if possible donor or funding efforts might require name addition for building. Caitlin made comment regarding preference/use of Senior Community Center as a future option which is beginning to be commonly seen among Senior Centers hoping to appeal to younger senior/adults. Lucille also commented on positive use of Community and it being synergistic with design.

Donation amount made in memoriam for Cynthia Haze. Also, Jim Cantwell’s campaign donated $1,000 to Senior Center.

Time Entry self-entry for hours submission to Payroll/Accounting has become time-consuming for Director to approve following individual employee time entry.

Reviewing policies, including transportation and standards of independence at the Senior Center, as well as Union and Human Resource administrative policies regarding sick and personal time.

Senior Center has both Beach permits and Transfer Station (2) permits that can be used by seniors upon request.

SCTV Seniorities taped program with Kim Stewart of SANDS; next upcoming Emmett Schmarsow.

Linda attending/participating at Pickleball to understand needs better as program is growing. Hours for summer being determined. Possible outdoor play being investigated, but not assured.

Guardianship seminar attended by Linda, Laura Minier and Jenny Gerbis.

Volunteer assistance of Mike Burke noted as benefit given to State employees for one day per month. Also, intern from Xaverian High School for 5 weeks. Nominating Norman Tetrault, SHINE Counselor for AARP Volunteer award.

Job Seeker’s Networking Group is beginning to take shape with a consistent group. Sign in front of the Community Building has been effective and brought people to call and attend. The Artists Way workshop did not run because of lack of sign ups. Drumming Circle with 25-plus family attending. Participants would like to continue with the program and have it added as a monthly activity. Not sure if we can afford to bring it, even if we were going to charge for it. Will look into cost and requirements.

Evening of Irish Music was great – slightly smaller attendance – 130-plus. Everything went well. Planning for the summer: Volunteer Luncheon at Widow’s Walk on Tuesday, June 19 planned for noontime. Summer Barbecue at St. Mary’s – possible entertainment from military band ensemble, possible partnering with schools for larger group/band – possibly Veterans Day timeframe. Also, 90+ birthday party, and hoping to have Lobster Lunch or Dinner in August. Gordon inquired about the date so as not to conflict with event being planned for church.

Lisa – Activities Report

Trips, Men’s Breakfast, Café talks, Duxbury/Conservatory concerts – report out of My Senior Center relays numbers, which are still lower than actual attendance because still do not get 100% signing in.

Jean – Transportation

Categories for travel/transportation good to see what rides are being provided for. Need for advance scheduling, but often try to meet last-minute requests when able while trying to adhere to police. Multiple errands are also being requested and can be hard to accommodate. Linda conveyed … Numbers are pretty consistent month to money and year to year, most recently.

Jenny – Outreach

Advocacy efforts are requested frequently; assistance with application completion. She has been co-facilitating Job Seekers Networking Group with Susan Kelly as an opportunity to do something a little different with a unique cohort of older adults. Extra 10 hours available to Outreach for new fiscal year, but we have some options. Jenny will be offered the opportunity to expand her hours to full time. A summary of guardianship information is included in the report. Massachusetts is one of the few states without a robust guardianship program and policies. It is about decision-making for those who are unable to perform in that capacity for themselves effectively or at all.

Tax work-off numbers questioned by JD. Linda explained placements versus 4 applicants who have not been placed in a position.

SSES – Meeting on May 1. Veterans clients have increased. Medicare is now going to accept Home Care with doctor’s approval. Working on adding to and improving website. Attorney did some training for new SSES management. Meals on Wheels volunteers still needed, especially for working in the kitchen packing meals. Some volunteers will return from Florida, but would welcome additional help. Approximately 14 people attending lunch three times a week. SSES Volunteer Luncheon is June 28 at Lantanas; annual meeting is November 14. August 23 is the Annual Picnic at Nantasket Beach. Question from JD re: are veterans increasing numbers for SSES clients being serviced, and they are actively recruiting veterans in need of services.

FOSS

Carol King asked about the tour of the Safety Complex had been mentioned at monthly meeting and there was interest by FOSS members to attend or take a tour; could schedule an additional tour for non-Men’s Breakfast attendees. Reported on spaghetti dinner event with full house and repeating next year for the 3rd time. Brian Sennett donated food, prep and cooking along with other volunteer efforts. Working on the Golf Tournament for June 15. $125 is the cost for golf; $30 for lunch only. Room for a few more foursomes. Would like gift cards from local restaurants and scratch cards to add to money trees for raffles. JD asked where to get information about the event. Posted on Scituate Monthly with registration information. Posters are also publicizing. Anyone interested in assisting as a volunteer, next Event meeting is Thursday, May 24 for the Golf Committee. Carol conveyed that there is some difficulty hearing COA meetings if they are attending as onlookers, but also soft recording on Cable television. Audio is being recorded/picked up from the camera.

WHO/AARP Application for Age-Friendly initiative needs to go to/through AARP. Steps involved begin with Letter of Interest from Town Administrator. Summary needs to be composed about programs and services of the COA, but it is a broad overview and could include a lot to synthesize. As we start to announce our commitment to the initiative, we would like to have that represented with some tangible/physical/visible addition to the landscape of the town. Baseline Age-Friendly Assessment requested in the application, which needs to be defined, along with strategy and Action Plan. When to bring in Steering Committee before or after some decisions are made that will be included in application. Caitlin offered to help Linda with completion of application. Good exercise for framing and establishing baseline from which we will evolve and target activities. Age-Friendly Domains to be targeted will remain to be determined once Steering Committee is established. May invite 15 to be involved knowing that only 8-10 may agree and/or be able to make individual meetings. Once committee is developed, COA Board members invited to be as involved as they like. Gordon asked for thoughts on the process of introducing ‘committee’ to individuals we are targeting. Per Caitlin, using the application information as a springboard – we’ve joined, TA is on board, would you like to be involved and join us. Asking for community involvement in areas of possible concern—not asking them to reinvent the wheel within each domain, just to lend thoughts and give input. With senior center coming makes easy to say this is a community that cares about seniors and we are working toward that end. JD defined process/steps to follow. Presentation, inviting people to learn and understand more about the efforts for becoming an Age-Friendly community. Established a good list of names to target for Steering Committee, so first off application needs to be completed.

Lucille talked with Ruth Thompson from The Mariner about featuring a regular column for the Senior Center project update.

For Old Business, Gordon mentioned having attended the Non-profit Summit and having spoken for the COA to the group, among the other non-profit and human services group representatives attending. Discussion regarding various groups and benefit of more people understanding and knowing the activities they perform.

Gordon talked with Patrick Kearney, candidate for Representative’s seat, from Scituate. He inquired as to whether he could attend a COA meeting or activity. Discussion around policy for candidates to invite all to any function.

More discussion re: marketing, promoting, partnering and planning for visibility for the Senior Center and making progress toward more community awareness and possible ideas. Question and discussion re: Heritage Days participation and what to provide, whether we could connect with FOSS at Jack Conway instead of separate table.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58.