

Council on Aging Board Meeting-Thursdays Nov 14, 2019

Call to order 6:30 p.m.

Attendance - board members: JD Miller-Chair, Janice Desmond-co chair, Janice Lindblom, Lucille Sorrentino, Susan Kelly, Maud Meulstee, Leslie James. In addition, Kathy Clarkeson COA staff Transportation, Joan Powers South Shore Elder services liaison and Elaine Schembari liaison to FOSS.

Absent board members were Henry Yeh, Caitlin Coyle. Linda Hayes, Senior Center Director, was on vacation. Karen Canfield liaison to the Board of Selectmen was absent.

The minutes for October 2019 were reviewed and approved.

JD welcomed two new board members: Susan Kelly and Maud Meulstee

Director's Report:

- Gatra-Executive Director New Hire is continuing with interviews week of 11/18.
- General Policies and Procedures (by laws) for Council on Aging approved at Town Meeting
- Great SHINE presentation on Oct 29 with Norm and Peggy McDonough; proclamations presented to Norman from Patrick Kearney and BOS member Karen Connolly. There is still a waitlist to see counselors at other Senior Centers, though Marshfield has declined because appointments are filled to capacity by their residents.
- Missed PBC meeting on 11/12.
- Attended FOSS trivia night on 10/28.
- Completed Formula Grant budget for \$52080 (\$12 per elder is a recent increase): 2 part-time salaries, exercise class subsidies, SW contractor pay, partial newsletter mailing, MCOA conference costs, subscriptions, My Senior Center maintenance fee, volunteer recognition event.
- Laura Minier has left position as of 11/12; supporting Caregiver Support Group SW facilitator through formula grant for monthly meeting and prep.
- Municipal Budget and Goals for FY 21 submitted to TA. Met with Finance Director and TA on 10/29. Will present to BOS on 12/3/19 and Finance Committee on 12/5/19.
- Cane case for Boston Post Cane display (at Senior Center) and plaque acknowledging Scituate Centenarians completed; pin dedications being scheduled for 5 honorees: Barbara Gillis, Frances Grondell, Doris Hastie, Mary Joyce, and Benvinda Monteiro.
- SCTV video clip of Tai Chi class is on-line at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wTmnlDRsj31>
- SCTV segment with Patrick Kearney taped on 11/5
- Thanksgiving luncheon at the River Club on Sunday Nov 17 at 1:30 for 180 people with music provided by the 5 piece **Play It Again** band. Many thanks to the River Club for donating the venue and the meal, and FOSS for paying the band.
- Age Friendly Steering Committee--next meeting is not yet scheduled for Nov/Dec to schedule Community Group Listening sessions--3 simple questions re living as an older person in Scituate; working on final list of groups to address. Short introductory slide show to identify and describe objectives—for listening sessions and SCTV. Caitlin is working on this slide show. Postcards to solicit community assessment of strengths/challenges/improvements. There is a sample at the Senior Center.

- Senior Center Project: sub-trade bids came in on 11/6; General Contractor bids due by 11/20. BOS plans to allow project to move forward despite lawsuit filed. JD may have update.

JD's update: there is no further info on the status of the lawsuit. The bidding process continues. The town is required by law to take the low bid. If all of the bids are too high (above what the town had planned), then the process begins again, and would include going to town meeting for more funding. If the bids are in line, there will be a special meeting of PBC about the winning bid, and then it goes to the BOS on Dec 3rd to get final approval. The actual construction would begin with abatement and demo of the C wing, while simultaneously renovating the side entrance of the gym area for ADA compliance. There was a question from Janice Lindblom about whether or not the BOS could call a special town meeting in the case of too high bids. JD did not know.

Transportation: Kathy Clarkeson presented the summary. 68 clients were served in October. Out of town medical rides continue to increase. Kathy has had some success in combining these with scheduled shopping trips. JD asked whether inter-town trips could also be arranged. Kathy will discuss with Linda. Also discussed was improving the cancellation rate, and Kathy indicated she is tracking this info by client with an eye toward reducing cancellations.

Programs:

- Halloween and chocolate event was successful and delicious.
- Men's breakfast at Widow's walk included TA Jim Boudreau
- Nancy Harris is leading the new "No Rules" Book Club. Read Last Christmas in Paris for the Dec 18 meeting.
- Walking Group and Trail Walkers continue despite cooler weather.
- Monthly Art Appreciation is a huge success. Upcoming dates 12/11 and 1/8.
- Dine Out traveled to Tinker's Son Restaurant in Norwell
- Scituate 50+ Networking Group continues through Dec 18. Session II begins Jan 8. Susan Kelly originated this program and partnered with MCOA to offer to COAs in Massachusetts. She is planning to license the program because grant money was only for one more year.
- Second annual Family Fun Walk was held Oct 6.

Liaison reports

- Joan Powers for SSES- there was a financial meeting Nov 5, 2019. On Nov 20 there will be an annual meeting with an awards presentation. Community dinner will be Nov 24 at St. Luke's
- Elaine Schembari for FOSS- Community Campus fundraiser: the calendar has gone to print; cost will be \$20; will be available at the Christmas Fair. A Spring 2020 Fund Raising Event is planned at the River Club for May 3rd.

Meeting adjourned at 8:15.

