

## Council on Aging Board Meeting – Thursday, November 29, 2018

Call to order – 6:00pm

Meeting held in the Program Room of the Scituate Library.

Attendance: Board Members: JD Miller, Chair, Gordon Price, Vice-Chair, Henry Yeh, Leslie James, Helen Jablonski, Janice Lindblom, and Janice Desmond, Linda Hayes, Senior Center Director, Kathy Clarkeson, Transportation Coordinator, COA, Karen Canfield, Liaison to the Board of Selectmen and Joan Powers, Liaison to South Shore Elder Services were in attendance. Caitlin Coyle and Lucille Sorrentino, Board Members were absent.

The minutes for the October 2018 meeting were accepted by the Board with one spelling edit to be made. It was noted that the smaller Navy Band performed at the High School on the same night as the previously scheduled COA Board Meeting. The Band's performance was very successful.

Linda's Report:

### 1. Senior Center Project -

- Two Building Commission meetings have been held since the last COA meeting, held on 10/23/18 and 11/27/18. At the October meeting the senior center building designs were presented and it was requested that the street facing side of the building needed some work to be more appealing and to have more resemblance to the former Gates School. At the November meeting the architect presented 2 alternatives to the original exterior design plans. Comments and questions from the audience in attendance led to a plan for the architect to complete a new set of plans to further re-design one of the presented alternatives that resembles the former Gates School. The next meeting will be held on 12/11 to present a new design along with the original designs presented. Meetings are also scheduled in the next weeks with the abutters of the former Gates School property as well as with the Historical Society, the Disability Commission and the Recreation Commission.
- Public forums will be scheduled after the design for the new senior center is finalized and approved. The Board of the COA will tentatively meet on 12/13/18 to vote on the design as a group and this will potentially go before the Board of Selectmen on 12/18/19.
- The COA Board discussed some of the public opposition to the new Senior Center that has been raised in the community and the manner in which the Council on Aging and the Board of Selectmen can respond to this in support of the new Senior Center.

### 2. General/Office –

- Linda discussed the use of "My Senior Center" software which was used to complete the EOEI Annual Report. Linda would like to further continue use of the software to better capture data and add better organization.
- Linda submitted the FY 2020 Municipal Budget this month and met with the Town Administrator to review on November 20, 2018. Linda will be presenting her budget to the BOS at their 12/18/18 meeting. Linda is ready to submit the EOEI Formula Grant

for FY 2019 and expects to receive a somewhat larger grant for the new fiscal year due to the raise in the rate per elder.

- GATRA rate increases were approved. The Library was added to the SLOOP's route and the 10 ride pass will go from \$10-\$15.
- Seniorities Program – Ed Katersky from Etrusco presented and Kathy DeMarsh from the House Authority as well as Chief Stewart were November presenters.

3. Programs update:

- Norman Tetreault, the SHINE Coordinator and Jenny Gerbis, the Outreach Coordinator, presented a Medicare Part D session at the end of October.
- 'Coffee with the Cops' program was held and it was quite successful. Taylor Billings, the traffic officer heard the concerns from the attendees and will bring those concerns to the traffic committee.
- The Winter Storm preparation session was held on 11/28/18. The MCAD had backpacks (approximately 10) they brought and donated that were filled with supplies for a storm. Both the Fire Department and Police Department were in attendance as well as a representative from the Food Pantry, Kathy DeMarsh from the Housing Authority and the Dog Officer, who all spoke to planning in place in the event of a storm.
- The Aging Mastery program is going well. South Shore Hospital has been providing good speakers and the program will include a presentation from a local pharmacist as well as a physical therapist.
- The Tech Time program and Seniors iPad program took place simultaneously this month which had several people working on various projects.
- A Kick-off Meeting of the Steering Committee for the Age Friendly initiative was held on November 28, 2018. Joan Meschino was in attendance. The next meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2019.

4. Activities & Volunteer Report –

- In October the Men's Breakfast was held at Untold Brewery.
- Van trips have been popular – more than 6 people is considered a full van.
- A Succulent Garden workshop is planned for November 30, 2018 and there will be 30 attendees. The instructor is donating all materials for all attendees.
- Volunteer is needed for the Panera bread pick up.

5. Outreach –

- 68 Seniors were assisted for the October/November 2018 time fram combined
- Jenny attended the Scituate Disabilities Fair and visited the housing sites

6. Transportation – Kathy Clarkeson presented her report

- 2 additional drivers are needed
- Routine rides must be done during regular COA hours, vans can be used outside regular hours for special events
- There was some discussion of scheduling trips to school musical productions that are held at the High School and Junior High School that senior would enjoy

7. Karen Canfield – BOS Liaison report –

- BOS will begin discussion the new fiscal year budgeting soon, including Capital needs
- BOS have been busy implementing the approvals that were voted on from the November Town Meeting
- Karen asked about ensuring the COA agendas and minutes are posted on the town's website to ensure the community is aware of discussions around the new Senior Center

- Ms Canfield was questioned about the initial results of the ice pigging effort and she said it was positive initial feedback
  - Ms Canfield was questioned about the high school track and fields work and funding and she said it would be presented at the April Town Meeting
  - Questions were asked about CPS funding and keeping it at the current 3% approved level. Ms Canfield stated that State matching funds has been declining.
  - Ms Canfield also reported that at the November Town Meeting, measures were approved to increase the senior tax breaks.
8. Joan Powers – South Shore Elder Services liaison report –
- The 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting and awards ceremony was held on November 14, 2018 at Lantana in Randolph at which time the employee of the year was named and awards were given to several employees.
  - Meals on Wheels in Scituate continues to need volunteers. Joan was aware of Scituate residents who volunteered through the South Shore Elder Services office and were sent to Hull to work. Joan interceded to inform SSES that Scituate was in need.
  - Here will be no community dinner held in December.
  - The Methodist Church held a Thanksgiving Dinner on Thanksgiving day and approximately 100 people attended, mostly the elderly.
9. Other Business –
- There was no FOSS liaison in attendance but it was noted that the FOSS Christmas Fair would be held on Saturday, December 1, 2018 from 9-2.
  - Linda Hayes discussed her plan to begin the process of obtaining her MCOA certification and asked the Board for their assistance in this effort. The work to obtain this certification will include the development of a strategic plan as well as a letter of support from the COA Board. A motion was made and approved by all to provide a letter of support for Linda to obtain her MCOA creditation.
  - The next COA Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 10, 2019. Tentatively, the COA Board will meet on Thursday, December 13, 2018 to review and vote on the Senior Center plans.
  - The meeting was adjourned at 7:30PM.