

NEEDHAM COUNCIL ON AGING
May 13,2010
MINUTES

PRESENT: Susanne Hughes, Dan Goldberg, Andrea Rae,
Mary Elizabeth Weadock, Scott Brightman,
Nina Silverstein, Jim Dolan,
Not Present: Carol deLemos, Roma Jean Brown, Risa
Greendlinger, Colleen Schaller, Derrek
Schulman
Staff: Jamie Brenner Gutner, Sherry Jackson
Convene: 7:00 p.m. - Stephen Palmer Senior Center

DISCUSSION:

- I. Call To Order - 7:05 p.m. - Susanne Hughes**
Susanne Hughes, Chair, called the May 13, 2010,
Council on Aging Board Meeting to order.
- II. Approve Minutes:**
Motion by Dan Goldberg that the Board vote to
approve the April 6, 2010, Council on Aging Board
Meeting Minutes, as amended.
Second by Mary Elizabeth Weadock.
- III. Chairperson's Report - S. Hughes**
S. Hughes reported that Selectman, John Bulian, at
Kate Fitzpatrick's request, is putting together an
Advisory Committee to discuss possible funding
options for a Senior Center once a site is selected.
A lengthy discussion ensued on sites, cost, public
buildings, and overrides, advocacy and involvement
particularly after a financing plan is proposed.
- It appears that the Advisory Committee would consist
of representatives from the COA, Park and
Recreation, Finance Committee and the School
Committee. This Committee would explore various ways
to finance the potential project. Persons serving on
the Committee should bring their expertise to the
table. M.E. Weadock noted that the Senior Center
Exploratory Committee's charge(SCEC) did not include
exploring financing.

After some discussion, the general consensus of the COA Board was that a representative from the Friends should also be included on the Town Manager's Advisory Committee.

The COA Board agreed that if summer meetings became necessary this would be considered.

M.E. Weadock reiterated that all pertinent information and decisions that have occurred as a result of the SCEC (Senior Center Exploratory Committee) meetings have been brought back to the COA Board.

A motion was made by N. Silverstein that the COA Board appoint Scott Brightman as the COA Representative to the Town Manager's Advisory Committee to fund a Senior Center. Seconded by M.E. Weadock. Unanimous vote.

L. Camberg reported that the reaccreditation process is moving along and committee work is close to being completed. She has offered to meet with Committee Chairs regarding the last part of the process as needed. L. Camberg reported that she is putting together the big book, which will be completed by the end of the summer. N. Silverstein asked what happens when the process is complete. L. Camberg responded that everything is sent to NISC (National Institute of Senior Centers).

IV. Executive Director - J. Brenner Gutner:

A. Rae mentioned that the information in the Executive Director's report regarding transportation and the arrival patterns of residents that visit the Senior Center was informative, noting that 77% arrive by car. A. Rae also expressed her appreciation for information shared on programming, as well as social service case vignettes and the SHINE program.

J. Brenner Gutner stated that an offer letter is going out to the candidate for the Outreach position. J. Brenner Gutner stated that she has received very good applicants for this position.

V. Friends of the Needham Elderly, Inc. Report -

J. Brenner Gutner:

J. Brenner Gutner reported that the Friends will have their own website. They will be asking the Town Manager if the COA website could have a link to it.

VI. Committee Updates:

**1. Senior Center Exploratory Committee -
Mary Elizabeth Weadock**

M. E. Weadock reported that the Permanent Public Building Committee (PPBC) has scheduled several information meetings: a lot of work is being done.

2. Springwell - M. E. Weadock

S. Hughes reported that a RFR was submitted to the State by the deadline.

3. Visibility Committee

A. Rae reported that the Spring Fair will be held on June 5, from 10am - 3pm at Memorial Field. A. Rae is putting together a photo album. A. Rae stated that she is looking for volunteers. D. Goldberg, M. E. Weadock, and S. Brightman offered times that they would be available to volunteer. Susanne Hughes will send out an email to Board Members asking for their availability.

4. Advisory Committee

No Report.

VII. Board Member Update:

Nina Silverstein - reported that at the April 23rd, UMass Boston Gerontology Celebration, "Vibrant Living," over 300 persons attended.

Susanne Hughes - is now on the Advisory Committee for the Greater Boston Hoarding Network.

Nina Silverstein - reported that she and Police Chief Leary are scheduled to meet regarding the Silver Alert Program, which is for older adults that have wandered away from their homes and have gotten lost. N. Silverstein did point out that this program is not in Massachusetts yet.

Adjourn (8:35 p.m.)

A motion was made by A. Rae to adjourn the May 13, 2010, Council on Aging Board Meeting. Seconded by M.E. Weadock. It was unanimously approved.