

NEEDHAM COUNCIL ON AGING
June 10,2010
MINUTES

PRESENT: Susanne Hughes, Carol deLemos, Dan Goldberg,
Andrea Rae, Mary Elizabeth Weadock,
Scott Brightman, Jim Dolan, Roma Jean Brown,
Risa Greendlinger

Not Present: Nina Silverstein, Colleen Schaller,
Derrek Shulman

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 June 10, 2010, Council on Aging Board Meeting to order.
- II. Approve Minutes:**
Motion by Dan Goldberg that the Board vote to approve the May 13, 2010, Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes as amended.
Seconded by Andrea Rae. Unanimously approved.
- III. Chairperson's Report - S. Hughes**
S. Hughes began with an update on the annual Needham Business Association's Street Fair on Saturday, June 5, 2010. S. Hughes, as well as S. Brightman, reported that they didn't receive a lot of queries. C. deLemos and R. Greendlinger stated that they fielded a lot of questions about potential Senior Center site locations. D. Goldberg stated that he fielded a lot of questions about why money was spent on site feasibility and there was still no firm decision. J. Dolan suggested that it might be time for the Council on Aging Board to be more vocal about this issue.

S. Hughes reported on her conversation with Board of Selectwoman, Denise Garlick regarding whether or not the COA Board would be receptive to the possibility of reducing the square footage for a proposed new building. M.E. Weadock noted that this came up at a Senior Center Exploratory Committee (SCEC) meeting as well. After some discussion on locations,

site cost, and build out options, the general consensus of the COA Board was to support the recommendation of a building with 20,000 sq.ft option.

A motion was made by Roma Jean Brown that Upon considering the request of whether the COA Board would entertain the idea of a Senior Center smaller than 20,000 sq.ft., and taking into account the downsizing from our original goal and understood need of 30,000 sq.ft., the COA Board stands by the recommendation of developing a new Senior Center that has a gross square footage of 20,000 and a net square footage of 18,000. A new Senior Center also needs to include a minimum of 100 dedicated parking spaces to accommodate the residents who will avail themselves of the Center. Seconded by Andrea Rae. Discussion. Unanimous vote.

S. Hughes asked J. Brenner Gutner to look into purchasing a professional transportable canopy for the Council on Aging.

S. Hughes reported that the COA Board will have two vacancies. Nina Silverstein and Derrek Shulman will not be returning. S. Hughes stated that she sent a memo to the Chair of the Board of Selectmen regarding this and requesting that the Board of Selectmen work with the Council on Aging Board in selecting persons to the vacant positions.

S. Hughes addressed the option of holding summer meetings. After a general discussion, it was decided that the COA Board would meet on Thursday, July 15, 2010, and has tentatively scheduled a meeting for Thursday, August 12. The COA Board will resume its regular schedule on Thursday, September 16, 2010.

S. Brightman asked the COA Board their opinion on the Emery Grover Building as a potential site. After a lengthy discussion the general consensus was that the Emery Grover site was too small, no elevators and not

enough parking.

S. Hughes stated that discussion on the COA Strategic Plan would wait until after the Accreditation visit, with a potential date for discussion of October.

S. Hughes stated that a Nominating Committee must be initiated and asked for volunteers to serve as its officers. R. Greendlinger and Roma Jean Brown have volunteered to serve as the nominating committee. Nominations will be voted on in the fall.

A motion was made by Andrea Rae that the COA Board postpone elections until September. Seconded by M. E. Weadock. Unanimous vote.

- IV. Executive Director - J. Brenner Gutner: Nothing additional to report.**
- V. Friends of the Needham Elderly, Inc. Report - Roma Jean Brown:**
The Strawberry Festival, which is the Annual Meeting, will take place on July 19, 2010, at 2 p.m.
- VI. Committee Updates:**
- 1. Senior Center Exploratory Committee - Mary Elizabeth Weadock-** nothing further to report.
 - 2. Springwell - M. E. Weadock**
Summer barbecue in July. S. Jackson will put an announcement in the Newsletter.
 - 3. Visibility Committee**
A. Rae took pictures for later use and passed out Elder Abuse Pamphlets that were handed out by the Domestic Violence Committee at the annual Needham Business Association's Street Fair on June 5, 2010.
 - 4. Advisory Committee**
No Report.
- VII. Board Member Update:**
The Secretary of Elder Affairs will be visiting Briarwood to observe the culture

change that has occurred in this facility.

Adjourn (8:25 p.m.)

**A motion was made by A. Rae to adjourn the
May 13, 2010, Council on Aging Board
Meeting. Seconded by R.Jean Brown. It was
unanimously approved.**