

**NEEDHAM COUNCIL ON AGING**  
**July 15, 2010**  
**MINUTES**

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

**Not Present:** Colleen Schaller, James Dolan

**Staff:** Jamie Brenner Gutner

**Guest:** James Healey, Co-Chair, SCEC;  
Denise Garlick, Co-Chair, SCEC;  
Matthew Borelli, SCEC; Larry Cummings, SCEC;  
Jay Kaplan, SCEC; Lianne Relich, SCEC;  
Moe Handel, SCEC

**Convene:** 6:00 p.m. - Stephen Palmer Senior Center

**DISCUSSION:**

**I. Call To Order - 6:05 p.m. -**  
Susanne Hughes, Chair, called the July 15, 2010, Council on Aging Board Meeting to order.

**II. Senior Center Exploratory Committee: Space and Programming Needs**  
S. Hughes described the purpose of the meeting and welcomed invited guests. After introductions S. Hughes recapped the previous discussions for a 20,000 square foot Senior Center, which is based on study, historical knowledge and programming needs. S. Hughes then introduced Denise Garlick, Co-Chair of the Senior Center Exploratory Committee (SCEC).

D. Garlick acknowledged the work of the Council on Aging SCEC representatives, noting that they have served the COA Board well. D. Garlick recapped previous meeting discussions on interior building space and programming needs, noting that the COA would take the lead on programming decisions. D. Garlick recapped previous discussions on community concerns about location and cost. D. Garlick stated that the SCEC wants to have a clear understanding from the COA Board of Senior Center needs. D. Garlick reported that the PPBC (Permanent Public Building Committee) has expanded

the scope of the feasibility study to include the Emery Grover building. Discussion continued with questions on parking. D. Garlick noted that feasibility would include a parking study.

D. Goldberg stated that the time is now to move forward to get a decision on the November Town Meeting Warrant. Discussion continued with questions on infrastructure, cost and parking. COA Board noted that a very small percentage of people walk to the Senior Center.

D. Garlick stated that the architect has deemed the Emery Grover building as structurally sound. M. Handel stated that the building would be reconstructed and reconfigured to meet Senior Center programming needs. Discussion continued with questions on the historical aspects of potential building options.

A. Rae presented comments on building usage, which included programming and counseling, etc., noting it's important that the building has build out options.

M. Borelli stated that the concern of the SCEC is that building a 20,000 sq. ft. facility might make the cost prohibitive and asked how flexible the COA Board is on this.

J. Healey outlined possible funding sources. J. Healey stated that it would cost more money to build a Senior Center on a site that is not owned by the Town. J. Healey stated that the SCEC wants to know how the COA Board feels about a smaller building with growth potential. J. Healey stated that this option could potentially be paid through the levy. J. Healey stated that the SCEC would be making a recommendation from the seven potential site options: Ridge Hill, Greene's Field, Rosemary Lake, Emery Grover, MBTA, Wingate, and the Stephen Palmer building. Discussion continued on square footage, build out potential, programming, potential site options, site work cost, as well as findings from the architect's report.

R. Greendlinger referenced the past reaccreditation findings, emphasizing adequate space is needed for programming needs.

Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager, outlined regulations of the Town Charter with regards to various sites. K. Fitzpatrick reported on potential site options: Wingate, MBTA, and the Stephen Palmer building. K. Fitzpatrick outlined usage stating that a full report is forthcoming to the SCEC for their meeting on July 28<sup>th</sup>.

**IV. Nominating Committee: A vote will be taken at the September Council on Aging Meeting.**

**V. Updates:**

- **Friends of the Needham Elderly Report:  
Upcoming Annual Meeting on July 19.**
- **Committee Updates: Deferred  
Advisory Committee  
Visibility Committee**
- **Springwell Report: Deferred**
- **SCEC Meeting Dates:  
August, 4, 11, & 18**
- **Finance Committee Meeting:  
August 23, 2010. Future meetings will  
include the Senior Center on their agenda**
- **Next Council on Aging Board meeting:  
August 12, 2010**

**Adjourn (8:00 p.m.)**

**A motion was made by D. Goldberg to adjourn the July 15, 2010, Council on Aging Board Meeting. Seconded by R. Jean Brown. It was unanimously approved.**