

NEEDHAM COUNCIL ON AGING
June 9, 2011
MINUTES

PRESENT: Susanne Hughes, Carol deLemos, Colleen Schaller, Andrea Rae, Risa Greendlinger, Mary Elizabeth Weadock, Eilene Kleiman, Lianne Relich

NOT PRESENT: Scott Brightman, Roma Jean Brown, Dan Goldberg

STAFF: Jamie Brenner Gutner, Sherry Jackson,

GUEST: Jay Kaplan

CONVENE: 7:00 p.m. - Stephen Palmer Senior Center

DISCUSSION:

- I. Call To Order - 7::00 p.m. - Susanne Hughes**
Susanne Hughes, Chair, called the June 9, 2011 Council on Aging Board Meeting to order.
- II. Approve Minutes:**
Andrea Rae made a motion that the Board vote to approve the May 12, 2011 Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes as amended.
Colleen Schaller seconded the motion.
The motion carried: 7 affirmative, 1 abstention.
- III. Chairperson's Report - S. Hughes**
S. Hughes reminded the Board that a nominating committee needs to be established and that its officers would report to the Board at the September COA Board meeting. A general discussion ensued. Board members discussed the option of meeting over the summer. The general consensus was that the COA Board would continue to meet during the summer as necessary.
- M. E. Weadock made a motion that R. J. Brown and R. Greendlinger would serve on the nominating Committee, with A. Rae serving as an alternate and that this committee would report back at the September COA Board meeting. C. Schaller seconded the motion. The motion carried. Unanimous vote.

S. Hughes reported that the reaccreditation work is done, the report has been submitted and that the next steps would involve a visit from the onsite reviewer. S. Hughes added that she would like to form a working group, a Re-accreditation Action Plan Sub-committee, which would report back to the COA Board. J. Brenner Gutner stated that she would resend the Action Plan to the COA Board. A. Rae pointed out the Action Plan is more nebulous and not a succinct document. A general discussion ensued, and the consensus of the COA Board was that C. deLemos, E. Kleiman, and L. Relich would serve on the Re-accreditation Sub-committee. S. Hughes pointed out that meeting during the summer would be a good time to get started on this work.

S. Hughes reported that as the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee convened their budget meetings with the various town boards, it is critical that COA Board members attend as many meetings as possible and to be cognizant about becoming more knowledgeable of the budget process and allocation of funding. S. Hughes added that the COA Board should use any opportunity to attend the budget meetings and to advocate for the importance of a new Senior Center. R. Greendlinger pointed out that it is the position of the COA Board that the Board of Selectmen include, in their budget, the maximum funding amount for a new Senior Center. After a general discussion the consensus of the Board was that the Chairman, on behalf of the COA Board, would write a letter regarding this to the Board of Selectmen.

Jay Kaplan, a guest at the meeting, stated that everyone who is concerned with building a new Senior Center must remind the Board of Selectmen of their commitment to build it. S. Hughes stated that she would draft a letter and share it with the COA Board.

IV. Executive Director - J. Brenner Gutner

The COA Board expressed their appreciation for receiving the COA Board meeting packet electronically. J. Brenner Gutner expressed her appreciation to Eilene Kleiman for assisting in

editing her report. COA Board members expressed that they like the program updates, it speaks to the progressiveness of seniors. S. Hughes stated that she liked the report on the NCOA/ASA Conference and the COA sponsored book club.

VI. Friends of the Needham Elderly, Inc. Report - J. Brenner Gutner

J. Brenner Gutner stated that she continues to meet, upon invitation, with the Friends of the Needham Elderly Steering Committee who are working towards establishing a Fundraising Committee and fundraising plan.

VII. Committee Updates

1. Visibility Committee - A. Rae

No Report

2. Springwell - M. E. Weadock

M. E. Weadock reported that Springwell is collaborating with B.I.D, Newton Wellesley Hospital, and Mount Auburn Hospital to launch a new initiative, Care Transitions Intervention (CTI) program. M. E. Weadock stated that the CTI program is designed to support seniors experiencing a "revolving door" of hospital readmissions. M. E. Weadock added, that the CTI program provides Transitions Coaches to elders and family caregivers with one-on-one support following hospital discharge.

M. E. Weadock stated that the Springwell Board is looking for an additional member, a member at large, with acute care experience. M. E. Weadock asked the COA Board to let her know of any leads.

VI. Board Member Updates

E. Kleiman made a motion to adjourn the June 9, 2011 COA Board meeting. C. Schaller seconded the motion. The motion carried. Unanimous Vote. The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.