

NEEDHAM COUNCIL ON AGING
November 14, 2013
MINUTES

PRESENT: Colleen Schaller, Ed Cosgrove, Phyllis Fanger, Dan Goldberg,
Susanne Hughes, Eilene Kleiman, Andrea Rae, Lianne Relich
NOT PRESENT: Carol deLemos, Scott Brightman, Roma Jean Brown,
Mary Elizabeth Weadock
STAFF: Jamie Brenner Gutner, LaTanya Steele
CONVENE: 6:00 p.m. – The Center at the Heights, 300 Hillside Avenue

Discussion:

- I. Call To Order – 6:03 p.m. – C. Schaller Co-Chair**
C. Schaller, Co-Chair, called the November 14, 2013 Council on Aging Board Meeting to order.
- II. Approve Minutes:**
E. Cosgrove moved that the Board vote to approve the October 10, 2013 Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes as amended. A. Rae seconded the motion. The motion carried. Unanimous Vote.
- III. Chairperson’s Report – C. deLemos & C. Schaller**
C. Schaller reported that C. deLemos is home and doing well. C. Schaller reported that the private tour for the Needham Bank on October 30, 2013 went well. C. Schaller reported that the Event Committee is having a difficult time finding a date for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. C. Schaller added that she, J. Brenner Gutner, and L. Relich met and the decision was made to host a general Open House on December 13, 2013, from 4:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. A general discussion ensued on logistics. Board members volunteered to do tours.
- IV. Executive Director Report – J. Brenner Gutner**
The Board expressed their appreciation for the informative Executive Director’s Report. C. Schaller stated that she is amazed at how much time and effort staff has spent on training about the 2014 changes to Medicare. J. Brenner Gutner added that there is a tremendous amount of confusion around the Affordable Care Act and if/how it affects Medicare recipients. A general discussion ensued on the open enrollment period.

J. Brenner Gutner spoke about what it is like for her and the staff at the new center. J. Brenner Gutner stated that there is a great deal going on, and that it’s been, “A joyous process.” J. Brenner Gutner stated that the Center has a new maintenance person, who had previously worked at the Elliot School and is well respected in the Public Facility Field.

L. Steele, stated that she is very busy, the new location is a learning process for participants and staff. A general discussion ensued on some programs that might be offered at the new center and resources available. L. Steele noted that more people are coming to Center for lunch.

V. Friends of the Needham Elderly (F.O.N.E), Inc. Report – J. Brenner Gutner

J. Brenner Gutner stated that the Friends have not met because of the move but are scheduled to meet on December 2, 2013.

VI. Springwell Report – S. Hughes

S. Hughes stated that Springwell is working hard.

VII. Committee Reports

SeniorCenter Update – C. Schaller, J. Brenner Gutner

C. Schaller stated that she still attends the Permanent Public Building Committee meetings. C. Schaller responded to members' question regarding the contingency fund.

Senior Center Handbook Committee – E. Cosgrove, C. deLemos, E.Kleiman, A. Rae

J. Brenner Gutner noted that the writing is done, next steps involve formatting and editing. Discussion veered on parking lot. J. Brenner Gutner stated that she is working with the DPW regarding clearer signage for the lot. J. Brenner Gutner added that a sticker system will be implemented and more handicap parking may be added.

VIII. Board Member Update

E. Cosgrove stated that he had a great time on his vacation

L. Steele stated that she is working hard on classes, which have been great.

A. Rae spoke about her trip to Singapore. A. Rae stated that the cost of the aging population is what young people in Singapore seemed concerned about. A. Rae stated that the young people are complaining about increases to health care which are covering the cost of the older population. A. Rae also mentioned that young people are not marrying to such an extent that it is decreasing the population by 25%. A. Rae stated that it is interesting that these same issues we are engaged in are the same issues that other cultures, half way around the world are engaged in.

D. Goldberg made a motion to adjourn the November 24, 2013 COA Board Meeting. A. Rae seconded the motion. The motion carried. Unanimous Vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

