

NEEDHAM COUNCIL ON AGING
April 10, 2014
MINUTES

PRESENT: Carol deLemos, Colleen Schaller, Scott Brightman, Roma Jean Brown, Susanne Hughes, Eilene Kleiman, Andrea Rae,
NOT PRESENT: Ed Cosgrove, Phyllis Fanger, Dan Goldberg, Lianne Relich, 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 – 6:05 p.m. – C. deLemos and C. Schaller Co-Chairs

Carol deLemos, Co-Chair, called the April 10, 2014 Council on Aging Board Meeting to order.

II. Approve Minutes:

Andrea Rae moved that the Board vote to approve the January 9, 2014 Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes as submitted. S. Schaller seconded the motion. The motion carried: 5 yes, 2 abstentions.

C. Schaller moved that the Board vote to approve the March 13, 2014 Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes as submitted. S. Hughes seconded the motion. The motion carried: 4 yes, 3 abstentions

III. Chairperson's Report – C. deLemos & C. Schaller

C. deLemos stated that the NBA Street Fair takes place on June 7, 2014. A general discussion ensued on the possibility of Board members participating in this event to update the public on programming, building layout, photos and more. C. deLemos noted that the deadline to enroll is May 20, 2014. A general discussion ensued, with consensus to table decision to participate until the May COA Board meeting.

C. deLemos shared a conversation that she had with a former COA Board member regarding the possibility of re-engaging in an 85 plus Survey which included calling persons over age 85 to see how they are doing and ensuring that this group was aware of resources available to them. J. Brenner Gutner expressed that doing a survey as we had done in the past would be tough to handle at this time, but that she would reach out to the former member for further clarification on what she was suggesting. She further expressed that input from Social Service would be important to have before any decision was made regarding the need for a survey. We would need to identify a target population and clarify the purpose. A general discussion ensued.

C. deLemos reminded the Board that Thank You Letters should go out to the Congregational Church of Needham from the Board and the Friends of the Needham

Elderly. C. deLemos noted that Mark Silverman, from Mark's Moving and Storage and Joe Morocco should also receive Thank You Letters.

C. deLemos suggested that the Action Committee should re-convene in the fall to work on the recommendations from the reaccreditation report.

C. Schaller stated that she has spoken with the President of Boston Showcase Company. He has invited her to come by and select items for the new kitchen. J. Brenner Gutner expressed that the new kitchen needs pots and pans for an upcoming cooking event. A general discussion ensued. A general discussion also ensued on authorizing permission to serve alcohol at various events that might be held in the building.

C. Schaller moved that the COA Board give Executive Director, J. Brenner Gutner, as building manager, and at her discretion, authorization to approve events with the sale of alcohol, having license approval of the local licensing authority (Board of Selectmen). S. Hughes seconded the motion. After some discussion, the motion carried. Unanimous vote.

The Board engaged in a brief discussion on the Town of Needham, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy.

E. Kleiman moved that the COA Board accept the Town of Needham, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) Policy. S. Hughes seconded the motion. After some discussion, the motion carried. Unanimous vote.

IV. Executive Director Report – J. Brenner Gutner

The Board expressed their appreciation for the informative Executive Director's Report. C. Schaller asked about how information on programs and services reached the public. J. Brenner Gutner responded that information is submitted weekly to the Needham Times for their Senior Notes and the information section of the Home Town Weekly. Conversation veered to the Prescription Advantage Program and whether or not Board members found the program to be tough to navigate. J. Brenner Gutner noted that Dorene Nemeth provides a lot of support at the Center on health care related issues. S. Hughes stated that she and her husband attended a great information session on the SHINE Program facilitated by Dorene Nemeth.

J. Brenner Gutner shared plans for rolling out a Pilot Program for the fitness room. J. Brenner Gutner stated that a qualified trainer for the fitness room has been identified for oversight and that the Friends of the Needham Elderly have voted to fund the pilot up to \$25K. J. Brenner Gutner noted that she has met with Town Counsel regarding this endeavor and needed paperwork. J. Brenner also noted that the Belmont Council on Aging has been very receptive to sharing information and paperwork. A general discussion ensued. The Board expressed their thankfulness to the Friends of the Needham Elderly.

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

The Friends of the Needham Elderly are re-designing their website. The Friends have decided not to do an event for local businesses at this time. The Friends are considering a name change.

VI. Springwell Report – M. E. Weadock

No Report

VII. Committee Reports

Senior Center Update – C. Schaller, J. Brenner Gutner

S. Hughes thanked the Event Committee for a lovely Dedication Ceremony. The COA Board presented C. Schaller with a beautiful orchid for all her hard work. After some discussion, conversation veered on the formation of a Nominating Committee.

E. Kleiman and A. Rae have agreed to serve on this committee.

VIII. Board Member Update

Andrea Rae shared information on her encounter with elder services in North Carolina and Virginia. A. Rae expressed that the agencies have nothing on Needham.

S. Hughes stated that she has had three grandchildren born in a week, a little girl and twin boys. She will be traveling to help the new parents.

E. Kleiman is expecting a grandchild.

R. J. Brown has a new great granddaughter who was born in December.

E. Kleiman made a motion to adjourn the April 10, 2014 COA Board Meeting. R. J. Brown seconded the motion. The motion carried. Unanimous Vote. The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.