

**NEEDHAM COUNCIL ON AGING**  
**November 13, 2014**  
**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Colleen Schaller, Carol deLemos, Ed Cosgrove, Phyllis Fanger, Dan Goldberg, Monica Graham, Penny Grossman, Susanne Hughes, Tom Keating, Eilene Kleiman, Lianne Relich  
**STAFF:** Jamie Brenner Gutner  
**CONVENE:** 6:00 p.m. – The Center at the Heights, 300 Hillside Avenue

**Discussion:**

- I. Call To Order – 6:01 p.m. –Colleen Schaller, and Carol deLemos Co-Chairs**  
Carol deLemos, Co-Chair, called the November 13, 2014 Council on Aging Board Meeting to order.
- II. Approve Minutes:**  
Upon motion duly made and seconded, the minutes of the Council on Aging meeting of October 9, 2014 were approved as amended. Unanimous vote.
- III. Chairperson’s Report – Carol deLemos& Colleen Schaller**  
C. Schaller shared some good news about co-chair C. deLemos. C. Schaller stated that C. deLemos was recently honored by the Newton Needham Chamber of Commerce at the Chamber’s Annual Achievement Breakfast. C. deLemos was presented with the Commitment to Community Award.  
  
C. Schaller, C. deLemos and J. Brenner Gutner were invited to speak at a recent Board of Selectmen meeting. C. Schaller stated that the conversation centered on an overview of this year, what the next steps for the division may be and potential budget goals. C. Schaller noted that The Center at the Heights has tripled its programming since a year ago and that there is a need for more staff. C. Schaller stated that the Selectmen inquired about reaching out to potentially underserved seniors and to community groups. J. Brenner Gutner gave some examples of outreach that is currently being done. J. Brenner Gutner added that there are additional things that the division could be involved with but the staff would need time to plan, organize and implement them. J. Brenner Gutner noted that 113 people have oriented to the Fitness Room. A general conversation ensued around issues such as the possibility and worthiness of conducting a survey of different age groups than have been surveyed in the past. C. deLemos noted that her main concern is that the division not miss outreaching to the homebound population. P. Grossman asked if the Council on Aging division is linked in some way to various home care agencies such as the VNACare Network. J. Brenner Gutner responded yes. J. Brenner Gutner noted that the faces she is now seeing at The Center include many new participants than have visited in the past.

**IV. Executive Director Report – J. Brenner Gutner**

The Board expressed their appreciation for great and informative Executive Director’s Report. The Board also expressed their appreciation for the Case Vignettes. A general discussion ensued on the turn out on voting day and concerns around parking. J. Brenner Gutner stated that the staff was very appreciative of the Boards’ presence and help on Election Day.

**Friends of The Center at the Heights, Inc. Report – J. Brenner Gutner**

J. Brenner Gutner reported that the topic of discussion was on completing a mailing to local businesses to introduce themselves. J. Brenner Gutner noted that the Friends have been meeting about the Tiles, which will go on the wall of the lobby when completed.

**V. Springwell Report – No Report**

**VI. Committee Reports**

**Art Committee – S. Hughes, E. Kleiman, S. Schaller, C. deLemos**

A general conversation ensued on the policies about how art work would be mounted on walls, and the terms and conditions of the agreement developed by the committee .A general discussion ensued on lead time for applying to exhibit art and if exhibitors could advertise.

**VII. Board Member Update**

Monica Graham shared that she attended an event sponsored by, “Web of Benefit.” Web of Benefit is an organization with a mission to promote liberation from domestic violence and to ensure the personal and financial independence of survivors, while breaking the inter-generational cycle of abuse. J. Brenner Gutner shared that she is a member of the Domestic Violence Action Committee (DVAC) in Needham.

Tom Keating shared that he and members of Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 2498 Needham, spent their Veterans Day afternoon with residents of Avery Crossing, some veterans themselves.

Ed Cosgrove shared that he and his wife are back from two weeks abroad, having visited Portugal, Spain, South of France and London.

Susanne Hughes shared that she is doing consultation and training on elder abuse and neglect.

**S. Hughes made a motion to adjourn the November 13, 2014 COA Board Meeting. E. Kleiman seconded the motion. The motion carried. Unanimous Vote. The meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.**