

**NEEDHAM COUNCIL ON AGING**  
**September 11, 2008**  
**MINUTES**

**Reminder: For changes see next month's minutes**

**PRESENT:** Susanne Hughes, Carol deLemos, Helen Hicks, Dan Goldberg, Nina Silverstein, Derrek Shulman, Andrea Rae, Mary Elizabeth Weadock.

**NOT PRESENT:** Morrie Dettman, Colleen Schaller, Betsy Tedoldi, and Roma J. Brown,

**STAFF:** Jamie Brenner Gutner and Sherry Jackson

**CONVENE:** 7:15 p.m. – Stephen Palmer Senior Center

**DISCUSSION:**

- I. Call to Order – S. Hughes**  
S. Hughes, Chair, called the September 11, 2008 Council on Aging Board Meeting to order.
- II. Approve Minutes:**  
Motion by A. Rae that the Board vote to approve the June 12, 2008 Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Second by ME Weadock. Approved unanimously.
- III. Town Manager – Kate Fitzpatrick**  
Kate Fitzpatrick, Town Manager, appeared before the Board to discuss the Town's progress toward developing a new senior center. She stated that the Board of Selectmen agreed to create an exploratory committee at its September 9<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. The committee would be charged with examining and making recommendations to the Board on the appropriate location, size and design, project cost, and other matters related to the construction of a new senior center. Another purpose of the committee is to gain consensus within town on a senior center project. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that the Vice Chairman of the Board of Selectmen would be making recommendations on the makeup and membership of the committee. The COA has three potential candidates for the Board of Selectmen's committee.

Ms. Fitzpatrick also stated that she visited the Town of Franklin Senior Center with the Board of Selectmen Chair and Vice-Chair and stated that both of them were impressed with the facility.

The COA discussed the makeup of the committee and expressed its desire to Ms. Fitzpatrick that the committee have people who are knowledgeable on senior needs.

**Ms. Fitzpatrick asked if the COA would still prefer that a senior center project not go on the ballot as an override question. The COA confirmed that this would be the preferred. She stated that the Board of Selectmen has identified up to \$4 million dollars in the Town's debt levy that could go to a project, but the earliest something could go on the warrant would be November 2009. The COA discussed the timing and options for how to proceed. The COA expressed its concern that little progress has been made but were more optimistic with more of a commitment from the Board of Selectmen.**

**S. Hughes reported that Morrie Dettman resigned from the COA Board. She asked Ms. Fitzpatrick for information on the process to get a new appointment from the Board of Selectmen. Ms. Fitzpatrick stated that the Council on Aging should send the request to the Board of Selectmen Chair. The COA agreed to send a note to M. Dettman thanking him for his service to the COA and Town.**

**After Ms. Fitzpatrick left the COA again discussed the candidates they would recommend for appointment on the Board of Selectmen's exploratory committee. S. Hughes stated that support is needed for this project and the exploratory committee could help this effort.**

**M.E. Weadock asked whether the COA should continue its Senior Center Subcommittee or wait until the Board of Selectmen's exploratory committee is formed. The COA Board suggested it would be best to wait.**

**IV. Chairperson's Report – S. Hughes**

**S. Hughes asked the Board to consider moving the meeting to an earlier time. The Board agreed to start the October meeting 15 minutes earlier at 7:00 p.m.**

**V. Executive Director – J. Brenner Gutner**

**J. Brenner Gutner distributed a list of donations.**

**M.E. Weadock asked about J. Brenner Gutner's upcoming presentation at the MCOA conference. J. Brenner Gutner stated that it was going to be a facilitated discussion on multi-generational programming. She suggested any Board members interested in attending the conference should contact her.**

**J. Brenner Gutner stated that interviews were completed for the Outreach Worker position and that selecting a candidate is close. She also stated that the COA filled the Building Monitor position with a wonderful gentleman.**

**J. Brenner Gutner reported that she had been informed that the COA should be getting a donation for transportation from a local organization.**

- VI. Donation:**  
Motion by A. Rae that the Council on Aging vote to accept the following donations:

**Spring and Summer Donations 2008**

<b>Personal</b>	<b><u>\$601.00</u></b>
<b>Class &amp; Program Donations</b>	<b><u>\$622.00</u></b>
<b>SHINE</b>	<b><u>\$712.00</u></b>
<b>Misc. Donations</b>	<b><u>\$300.00</u></b>

**Council on Aging Transportation Donations FY 08**

<b>July 07</b>	<b>\$139.00</b>
<b>September 07</b>	<b>\$ 48.00</b>
<b>November 07</b>	<b>\$212.50</b>
<b>December 07</b>	<b>\$354.50</b>
<b>January 08</b>	<b>\$144.00</b>
<b>February 08</b>	<b>\$100.00</b>
<b>March 08</b>	<b>\$188.00</b>
<b>April 08</b>	<b>\$251.00</b>
<b>June 08</b>	<b><u>\$244.50</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$1681.50</b>

Second by N. Silverstein. Unanimously approved.

- VII. FRIENDS – J. Brenner Gutner**  
J. Brenner Gutner stated that the FRIENDS are committed to sending the Compass to all the Town's 4,000+ seniors but that advertising has not been sufficient. The FRIENDS are planning on soliciting donations in the next issue.
- VIII. Committee Reports**
- A. Springwell – M.E. Weadock**  
M.E. Weadock reported on an upcoming fundraiser in October. The event involves asking a local restaurant to donate

**10% of receipts on a specific day. Wild Willy's in Needham has agreed to participate and the day of the event is October 27<sup>th</sup>.**

**B. Willgoose Lecture**

**The Board discussed possible speakers for the Willgoose Lecture and it was agreed that the COA would seek to get a person from the Quincy YMCA that gives a presentation on free weight exercising. ME Weadock offered to help organize the event.**

**C. Harvest Fair**

**The Board discussed whether to participate in the Harvest Fair in October. J. Brenner Gutner stated that due to the staffing pattern at this time staff would not be available to help organize this event.**

**Motion by A. Rae that the Board vote not to participate in the Town's Harvest Fair in October. Second by H. Hicks.**

**Approved 7-1. N. Silverstein voted nay.**

**IX. Board Member Updates:**

**D. Shulman: Thanked the Board for all its support in recognizing his new position. He said the position will be challenging but exciting.**

**N. Silverstein: Announced an event on September 26<sup>th</sup> in Boston on Global Approaches to Licensing and Older Driver Safety and Mobility. She is going to be the moderator of a panel discussion.**

**J. Brenner Gutner: Distributed a letter in support of a senior center written by Irwin Silverstein and a copy of an article that appeared in the Times on the topic.**

**A. Rae: Reported on friends of hers that live in Baton Rouge and the impact of the latest storm.**

**H. Hicks: Reported that she used the Springwell Busy Bee service and it worked great.**

**X. Adjourn (9:00 p.m.)**

**Motion by D. Shulman that the Board vote to adjourn the September 9, 2008 Council on Aging Board Meeting. Second: A. Rae. Approved unanimously.**