

Foxborough Council on Aging and Human Services Board Meeting September 29, 2016

Present: Director-Vicki Lowe, Chairperson-Lloyd Gibbs, Vice chairperson-Milli Greene, Wendy Haney, Betty Travers, Bob Murphy, Janet O'Neil and HESSCO Rep.-Helen Rice.

Absent/Excused: Ann Alibrandi, Nancy Stockwell, and Edward O'Leary

The meeting was called to order by Lloyd Gibbs at 3pm.

Action Items:

Minutes- The minutes from the June 23rd meeting were approved as written.

Election of Officers- Officers were elected for the 2016/2017 COA/HS Board. There were no new nominations for officers. Lloyd Gibbs was unanimously voted Chairperson, and Milli Greene was unanimously voted Vice chairperson. Wendy Haney will remain Secretary.

Director's Report:

Budget Report-Vicki stated that the Operating and Capital Outlay Budget balances from FY' 16 were rolled into the driveway project budget with Centralized Maintenance to go toward the new electronic sign. There will still be a deficit but Randy Scollins said that he has funds to make up the difference. One of the Van drivers is out on a leave of absence, so we will be paying him and the subs that fill in for him. This will be a hardship for our salaries budget. Closer to the end of the year, Vicki will meet with the finance department to see how the deficit can be closed.

Office Report-As far as the driveway project goes, we should be getting the flag pole installed next week. After it is in place, Tony (from Centralized Maintenance) will have the electric work done for lighting and we will get our electronic sign. After that the sprinklers can be put back. DPW will be making signs and painting directional arrows on the driveway.

Vicki stated that she received a grant from the Mass. Council on Aging for assistive listening devices (ALS). There are fourteen headsets and two portable receivers that instructors can use simultaneously in different rooms. We have a 'pocket talker' for one on one conversations and are getting an adaptor for the sound system so that we can have a receiver hooked into the PA system. The system will be available for use in October. Vicki demonstrated the device. The MCOA payed for approximately seventy percent of the cost and the Foxborough COA for thirty percent.

During the summer we hired some new substitute drivers to cover the hours in the car. Gary MacDonald has become the new full time van driver.

Events and Programs Update-COA/HS had a table at the Town Employee Health Fair today. We brought the ALS.

The Grand Canyon Trip is leaving on Saturday, October 1st. There were fifty one people signed up and there were three cancellations, so forty eight people will be traveling on the trip. The jointly funded trips to Newport on August 4th and September 22nd were greatly appreciated by the seniors. Joe Carbone did a phenomenal job as our guide. Both Newport trips had around fifty people. There were a few last minute cancellations.

The Memory Cafe was a big success. There were sixteen participants. Annette Fisher did a great job playing songs on the piano. There was a positive, happy atmosphere and the participants said that they look forward to next month. There was a packet made up for caregivers with information and questionnaires. The Memory Cafe takes place in Foxboro on the third Tuesday of the month from one to three pm.

Vicki has been working with Marsha Lewicke on ideas for the Garden Club for the winter months. Vicki is supporting a Foxboro Cultural Council grant for a program on edible flowers. We also will be making gardener's hand soap and painting kindness rocks to distribute around town.

The HESSCO grant of \$8500 is going into full swing. A 'Matter of Balance' started at the Foxboro senior center on September 8th for eight weeks. The Medfield and Sharon COA's will both be doing 'Diabetes Self-Management' programs. Medfield is starting their program on September 30th and Sharon will start on October 19th. Wrentham COA will start "My Life, My Health" on October 4th. Foxboro seniors are welcome to attend.

We have a new instructor who will be doing decorative glass painting on November 2nd. Also, we have a few new presenters. Dana Zaiser is doing a three part travel series. He has been to the senior center before and been well received. In October, we will be doing a program called 'Art Matters'. We will pay for these programs from the gift account.

Vicki has provided the Friends with the programs for the rest of this year for consideration for funding. They will be funding Paolo DiGregorio once in September, twice in November and once in December. They will fund Dana Zaiser once in November. They will fund Gary Hylander once in October and twice in November. They will fund Jack Craig once in December. They will fund author, Rick Beyer, once in December. They will pay half the cost of Michael Tougias in October if enough interest is shown. Michael is a very good speaker but quite expensive. He was at the senior center last year when the COA split the cost with the Foxboro Historical Society. He drew a crowd of over a hundred people. Vicki thanked the Friends for funding most of our programs. It has provided us with the ability to secure high quality speakers and great programs for our participants.

At the end of her report, Vicki stated that she would be away at the MCOA Annual conference at the time of our next meeting (October 27th). Our board decided to keep the meeting at the regular date and have Vicki's director's report read to the board.

HESSCO Report:

Our HESSCO Rep., Helen Rice, gave us her report for the meeting of September 14th. Helen stated that HESSCO received a grant through Elder Affairs for \$19,230 which will focus on the training and additional services for individuals with dementia. Another grant that HESSCO has in conjunction with other Elder Services is for Tele behavioral health. A Care Manager will go out to a consumer's home with a laptop and do videoconferencing to bring behavioral health service to homebound elders. HESSCO received \$20,000 in sponsorships for the Age Well Conference which will be held at Lake Pearl on September 22nd. The needs assessment process has begun. Sheryl Leary will conduct eight different listening sessions in different communities from September thru December to receive input from people on areas to be considered and focused on for the needs assessment. One area of concern is Public Housing.

Friends of Foxboro Seniors Report:

There was no new report from the Friends. In her Director's Report Vicki thanked the Friends and told us which programs the Friends would be funding for the rest of this year. Helen mentioned that at their last meeting, the Friends voted to designate that any HESSCO donation be used specifically for Foxboro seniors.

OLD BUSINESS:

No old business.

NEW BUSINESS:

In our folders was a copy of the Foxborough COA/HS By-Laws. Vicki stated that some of the by-laws are outdated or not relevant now. The Board agreed that we need to discuss what needs to be changed or eliminated in the by-laws. Lloyd stated that he thinks there should be term limits for Chairperson and Co-Chairperson. The Board agreed to keep the discussion of the by-laws in Old Business until January when we would finalize the process.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Wendy Haney
Secretary