

COA Meeting Notes

February 11, 2015

Kevin called the meeting to order at 10:34 am. Members present: Kevin Rudden, Earl Pearlman, Carol Kotros, Mary Ann Hopkins, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson Kent. Absent: Jim Negri on medical leave. Friends members present: Nancy Jenkins, Tom Irons and Dick Skinner. COA member, Bob Carlson and Friends' President, Sue Carlson arrived at 11:10 am.

The Secretary, Treasurer and Director's reports were all unanimously approved.

Old Business

Food Pantry Update—Carol reported some new clients in January. February food distribution was rescheduled due to snow. Food was delivered to some clients. Carol attended a food pantry meeting in Milford at Trinity Church. Milford churches rotate the last three days of the month to sponsor a free meal for needy folks.

Budget Update—Amy and Kevin met with the Fin Com. Our two requests to increase Amy's and Outreach worker's hours are low on Selectmen priority rating. Regarding the 3% across the board raise, they have said salaries are in line with similar towns. As far as Director's salaries go, we know for certain that Hopedale and Upton pay considerably more and those directors have an assistant. Kevin suggested we schedule an appointment on BOS meeting agenda to express our discontent. Earl said he was concerned with Option 2 to use volunteers to cover phones, feeling the Selectmen would jump on this option to put us off another fiscal year. The board agreed to send a revised memo to Town Administrator taking Option 2 off due to confidentiality issues, need for CORI checks, need for training in order to be able to run interference and be of any value and consistency of showing up.

Front Door Update—Kevin reported the door was remeasured and parts were ordered. We will request installation for warmer weather.

Garage Light Switch—Friends' meeting was cancelled due to snow. They will have to vote to approve funds at the March meeting.

Annual Report—still in progress.

New Business

Volunteer Appreciation—set for April 15. Friends are sponsoring the entertainment, comedian, Carol O'Shaunessy. Karen Wheet has agreed to help with the meal. We need to decide whether to have soup and sandwiches again or a full meal.

Open Forum

Amy is looking for volunteers to pick up Whole Foods donations on Sundays.

Due to the amount of shoveling required, Bob Gebelein suggested purchasing an electric snow shovel or snow blower to clear in front of the garage, the entry ramp and the back deck. He said the center had a snow blower seven years ago. Cost would run between \$200 and \$500. Sue Carlson said she will talk to the Friends' board about possibly covering this.

Meeting adjourned 12:11pm.

Respectfully submitted.

Ann Vandersluis

Cc: Jim Negri

Secretary