

COA Meeting Notes

October 16, 2019

Before the meeting was called to order Earl suggested welcoming our two newest members, Diane Howell and Jennifer Talamini.

Peg called the meeting to order at 10:10 am and conducted the meeting in her position as co-chair. Members present: Peg Nogueira, Earl Pearlman, Carol Kotros, Diane Howell, Jennifer Talamini, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson-Kent. Mary Ann Hopkins was absent.

The Secretary, Treasurer and Director's reports were approved unanimously. Amy presented a written report and there were a few issues we discussed. Next year we want to clarify that the flu shots given at the Senior Center are regular strength, not high dose. Next month Misco Cares will attend our meeting to tell us about their organization. Previously, Jen Callahan has procured donations of fresh produce for the Senior Center. She is not able to do this anymore, so Amy suggested purchasing bulk bags of fresh vegetables for Thanksgiving. Peg made a motion to allow Amy to purchase up to \$500 of fresh produce from the food pantry account. Jennifer seconded. All approved. Next, Diane made a motion to purchase gift cards for Thanksgiving and Christmas up to \$2000. Earl seconded. All approved.

Friends' Report—the recent meeting was spent discussing and coordinating raffle basket sales and volunteers for Oktoberfest.

Old Business

Food Pantry—all is going along well, client count has grown to 42.

Senior of Year Event—wonderful event, well attended. Fred Kelly was thrilled.

Architectural/Engineering Study—we are waiting for updated architectural drawings.

MCOA Conference—tabled to next meeting.

Veteran's Breakfast—Friday Nov 8, 8:30am—Janet Hubener calls older veterans to extend invitation and inform van is available.

Scout Food Drive—Nov 9—flier will be in this week's Crier. Jen, Peg, Diane, Carol and Ann volunteered to help.

Holiday Dinner—Wednesday Dec 4—Amy will let Dick Ferrucci know we decided on a chicken dish and a vegetarian dish. We will handle dessert and beverages.

New Business

EOEA State Formula Grant—due Nov 1—is used for 6 hours Outreach worker’s salary, volunteer recognition, postage, van expenses and educational conferences. This year Amy would like to get one extra hour for Laura under the grant. She will talk to Town Administrator.

Fire Dept/Senior Center Grant—this is an annual state grant applied for by the Fire Dept which we sign off on. It provides educational materials for fire safety.

Tax Abatement Program Update—Town Administrator postponed participation in OBRA until next fiscal year beginning July 1, 2020 due to confusion and lack of information. There will be an information meeting for the workers in May 2020.

COA ABMI Cable Program—if we decide to participate this would be a monthly half hour program consisting of two fifteen minute segments in which various people would be interviewed that would be of interest and provide information to seniors. Everyone thought this sounded like a good idea.

Open Forum

Amy wanted us to know about two Cultural Council grants: Roger Tincknell’s Country Music program for the Volunteer lunch on May 6, 2020 and David Bates “Celebrating New England” on April 15, 2020.

Amy received a donation to thank the Senior Center for thoughtful care given to their family member with a note asking to please use this toward helping someone else in need. She will contact the family to thank them and to ask them to reissue the check as it was made out incorrectly.

Next meeting November 13, 2019. Meeting adjourned 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Vandersluis

Secretary