

COA Meeting Notes

April 12, 2017

Kevin called the meeting to order at 10:05 am. Members present: Kevin Rudden, Earl Pearlman, Carol Kotros, Peg Nogueira, Mary Ann Hopkins, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson-Kent. Friends' members present: Sue Carlson, Diana Carter and Dick Skinner. Carol Kotros had to leave at 10:30 am.

The Treasurer and Secretary's reports were unanimously approved. Amy gave a lengthy verbal Director's report. My Senior Center needs to be upgraded to a new computer system as it is nine years old and not working consistently. The cost is \$1450. We discussed with Friends present and they felt their members would approve paying for half. They will discuss at next month's meeting. Earl made a motion that we give Amy authority to pay for it now out of the COA gift account, half of which will be reimbursed by the Friends at a later date. Mary Ann seconded. Unanimously approved. Amy and Alan Kent are working on the 2017 inventory list for the annual town hall report. Earl and Carol's COA board terms are up on June 30. They both agreed to serve another three year term. Amy asked us about setting guidelines for Panera Bread products on Wednesdays. We suggested a sign stating two items only please. Amy received a request from a Girl Scout gold project to build four raised vegetable beds at the senior center. We decided to refer her to Gary Smith for his mother's memorial garden. There is a Scout with an Eagle Scout project to build a storage shed for medical equipment. Amy reported that she has received numerous requests from high school and college students looking for community service projects. Finally, Anne Mazar has asked if she could have a blurb in our newsletter for the Energy Audit Program. We all agreed this would be okay. Kevin suggested we make seniors aware that there could be a cost for any major project that is suggested by the audit.

Old Business

Food Pantry—this month's distribution went well. Currently thirty participants.

Senior Tax Abatement—going well, 22 participants, not soliciting additional members for remainder of fiscal year.

FY18 Budget—18 hour/week municipal clerk and new senior center windows will be included in the budget to be voted on at May 5 ATM.

Van Link to Milford—starting April 1 it will run Fridays until end of fiscal year. We'll see how it goes and assess for future.

Health Fair/Open House—the letter to participants will be sent out in June. The sub-committee will meet May 10 after the COA meeting.

Volunteer Appreciation—Amy has a budget of \$500 in the grant. She is concerned that a fully catered meal is too expensive. We decided to order kale/sausage soup from Nelly's and make our own assorted finger sandwiches. Amy will check with Nelly for a price on either potato salad, macaroni salad or cole slaw to accompany the sandwich on the plate.

Newsletter update—Lpi rep has secured 7 business ads so far and will be returning to senior center again for more solicitation.

Architectural Study—no money available right now, at the suggestion of the Fin Com chair, Amy and Kevin met with two BVT students and a teacher who will draw something up but we will still need an architect to complete the project.

New Business

Van Transportation—Bob Gebelein has reduced his driving hours to 2 days/week. Russ Dudley and Wally Matthews are covering the other days.

Beautification Update—Ann reported on Friday's April 7 walk through and meeting. Main theme is maintenance and clean-up. Grafton Job Corps will be here April 27 to rake, spread mulch, and plant pansies. Highway department will be contacted to fill ruts and fix berms moved by snowplow. The Friends have agreed to cover the 'Fly the Flags' project out of the beautification budget since we have not exhausted the budget in past years. Eldon Swanson will clean out the window boxes. Ann will plant flowers in the boxes when it is warm enough.

Fuel Assistance—has additional monies available until May 12, 2017.

Open Forum

Peg suggested we think about and decide what we are going to do in the 350th parade on Sunday, September 24, 2017. Dick Skinner asked and we told him okay to paint the cellar stairs.

Meeting adjourned 11:35 am.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Vandersluis

Secretary