

COA Meeting Notes

January 13, 2016

Kevin called meeting to order at 10:35. Members present: Kevin Rudden, Earl Pearlman, Carol Kotros, Mary Ann Hopkins, Peg Nogueira, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson-Kent. Bob Carlson arrived at 11:20 am. Friends present: Dick Skinner, Bob Gebelein and Lou Meroli.

The Secretary, Treasurer and Director's reports were all unanimously approved. Amy gave the Friends' report. They approved COA requests of \$1000 for entertainment, \$500 for beautification, \$500 for rug and chair cleaning, \$500 for exercise programs, \$325 for copier maintenance and \$500 for Director's discretion. The annual Book Fair will be on April 8, 9 and 10, 2016.

Old Business

Food Pantry—Carol reported that the schedule is again set for the first Monday of each month. We received food donations from Nat'l Honor Society student projects and a private family donation. Kevin mentioned that Franklin YMCA is promoting healthier foods for food pantries. Amy could possibly be contacted by them.

Holiday Dinner—was well attended and enjoyed by all.

Gas Grill—Ace Hardware had a really nice grill on sale for \$170 including shipping. Kevin will assemble it in time for the upcoming season.

FY17 Budget—Wednesday, Feb 3, is next FinCom meeting. Kevin requested board members attend since we are asking for 5 add'l hours for Amy and add'l hours for part time outreach worker. During this discussion it came up about folks missing the newsletter. Kevin said something had to go and this was the best option. Kevin asked Amy if a tax abatement worker could handle the job. She wasn't sure but will follow up on it. Peg suggested BVT's graphics department for printing, but Amy would still have to do the very time consuming set-up work. Earl came up with a brilliant suggestion for an internship program through the schools. Amy will contact both superintendents to see if there are any qualified students that might be interested.

Tax Abatement Program—Amy had two new seniors inquire about the program. Kevin said we need clarification from Kim and the BOS as to which town offices can be included in the program because we used to be able to include taking fuel assistance apps and food pantry volunteers which went away during the budget crunch. Once this is clarified, Amy can contact the school department to see what their needs might be.

Policy Review—Dick Skinner will bring recommendations on the travel policy to the February meeting.

New Business

Outreach Worker Recommendation—Kevin and Amy have recommended Janet Hubener to the BOS as the person to share the 16 hour position with Beverly Hart. She and Beverly have been working very well together so it's a good fit. Peg made a motion to accept the recommendation. Earl seconded. All approved.

Open Forum

Earl suggested that the COA might want to have an open house at the senior center in conjunction with the town's 350th celebration. Kevin mentioned that on Jan 28, 2016 there is a townwide meeting at Misco School for suggestions from residents and sign-ups for sub-committees. May 15, 2017 is the actual anniversary date. Kevin suggested we hold the open house in conjunction with the June 2017 Progressive Yard Sale and maybe we could have John Trainor or Dick Grady on hand to answer questions about town history. We also would like to tie in the 2017 Senior of the Year with the 350th. Ann suggested the senior recipient could be the grand marshal for the Sept 17, 2017 parade. Kevin said he will bring it up to the committee.

Bob Gebelein suggested a few maintenance projects: new windows for the center, outdoor electric outlets as he is donating a used electric shovel and an exterior water faucet in back.

Kevin said there are scouts looking for Eagle projects. Amy suggested emergency kits for seniors as one idea.

Bob Gebelein asked how long he should wait at a person's house for a scheduled pick-up. The COA thought 10 minutes should be adequate because making Bob wait is taking time away from other riders and could also be responsible for someone being refused a ride the previous day.

Meeting adjourned at 12:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Vandersluis

Secretary