

COA Meeting Notes

July 13, 2016

Kevin called meeting to order at 10:06 am. He began by offering condolences to Earl upon the loss of his mother. Next he called for a moment of silence for Friends' member, Lou Meroli, who passed away on July 9, 2016. Members present: Kevin Rudden, Earl Pearlman, Peg Nogueira, Mary Ann Hopkins, Ann Vandersluis and Director, Amy Wilson-Kent. Carol Kotros was absent. Friends' member, Dick Skinner, was also in attendance.

The Secretary and Treasurer reports were unanimously approved. Amy gave a verbal Director's report due to FY17 budget issues taking precedence.

Old Business

Food Pantry—according to Mary Ann the monthly distribution went smoothly. Amy said we received a generous donation of fresh eggs from a local farmer. Imperial donated circus tickets for food pantry recipients. Amy was contacted by the Scout Food Drive coordinator to find out our most pressing food pantry needs. He will post this info on Facebook prior to their annual food drive.

Budget Update—FY17 budget completed and submitted.

Senior Tax Abatement—Kim Newman is very pleased with how the program is going. Amy reported there are 20 participants including one veteran. Another veteran is planning to apply. New projects are still being created for seniors and vets to work on.

Senior Cook-out—plans are underway. Committee will set up on Wed at 11am. Amy needs someone to pick up the order at Shaw's Meat on Thurs.

Senior Tea—menu and committee all set. May be triple berry pie again. Went over well last year.

Senior of Year Event—Amy is trying to coordinate the date with the Lion's Club which is usually the third Sunday in September. John Trainor and Dick Grady have humbly accepted their nominations, being very happy for each other.

New Business

Senior Census—Town residents total 6114, senior residents 1311, which is 21.4% of total population. Amy and Kevin reported there is a proposed Federal Medicaid Budget cut which will do away with SHINE, the program that helps seniors navigate through Medicare for their prescription medication and medical plans. Seniors need to contact their senators and representatives to urge them to vote against.

Open Forum

Amy will be attending the annual MA COA Conference on Oct 26, 27 & 28, 2016 in Falmouth MA. If other COA members wish to attend, Kevin said we will try to find funding, either through the gift account or the Friends.

The van drivers are all set for the fall when Bob Gebelein is on medical leave. Russ Dudley will drive Mon and Tues and Wally Matthews on Wed and Thurs.

Next meeting date is Aug 10, 2016. The Oct meeting date will be changed to Oct 5 due to Yom Kippur falling on the second Wed.

Meeting adjourned at 11:25 approximate.

Respectfully submitted,
Ann Vandersluis
Secretary