



Regular meeting minutes of the
Council on Aging Board

Date: 4/25/2018

Place: Senior Center

Room: B07

75 Groton Road, No. Chelmsford, MA 01824

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TOWN OF CHELMSFORD PATRICIA E. DZURIS TOWN CLERK

Opening: Chair Len Olenchak called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Nickie Bischoff, Fred Brusseau, Paul Der Ananian, Alan Fidler, Steve Flynn, Bob Hamilton, Ruth I'Anson, Louise Myers, Len Olenchak, Jerelyn Serra, Debra Siriani, Annie Smith, and Dianne Sperry.

Members absent: Terese Viega

Guest: Paul Cohen

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: Minutes of the March meeting were approved, with changes.

NEW BUSINESS

- 2019 COA budget approved by Town Manager and Finance Committee. It is on the Town Warrant and will be voted upon at the upcoming Town Meeting.
- Alan Fidler presented the template that was designed by the COA Board's Finance Committee to gather information about the Senior Center's annual budget needs. The goal is to present complete and timely numbers to the town management.
- Annie Smith reported that the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind is cutting funding to the Blind Reintegration for Independence, Development, and Growth for Elders (BRIDGE) Program, which, among other things, funds peer support groups throughout the Commonwealth. An effort is underway to get this funding restored.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- Our cook, Craig Yager, has resigned to pursue a different career. A replacement requisition has been approved and is posted. Meanwhile, Kathy Munro, Food Services Manager, has taken over the cooking duties.
- Our night-time custodian, Rich Maguire, fell on-site and will be out for 12 weeks. Our full-time custodian, Karen Solomonides, and our Building Monitor, Danielle Morin, have picked up evening hours to cover the void.

LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Beacon Hill's FY 19 budget is strong for older residents:

- Increase in formula grants that support the work of COAs
- Increase in the state's home care program
- Increase in the protective services program

NEXT MEETING: WED., MAY 9, 9:00 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Ruth I'Anson, Recording Secretary