



Regular meeting minutes of the
Council on Aging Board

Date: 9/12/2018

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 Fred Brusseau called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Members present: Nickie Bischoff, Fred Brusseau, Paul Der Ananian, Alan Fidler, Steve Flynn, Ruth l'Anson, Louise Myers, Debra Siriani, Annie Smith, Dianne Sperry.

Members absent: Bob Hamilton, Len Olenchak, Jerelyn Serra

Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Minutes: Minutes of the August meeting were approved.

Introduction of Guests: Jennifer Hardy, of Blake Funeral Home, attended the meeting as a prospective board member.

OLD BUSINESS

Community Preservation Act. Paul Der Ananian investigated how the CPA funds, which are collected as part of property taxes, are distributed. The funds are specifically designated for open space preservation, historic preservation, and affordable housing. Multi-step process to be approved. Request must first be approved by a 9-person board, then must be approved by Town Meeting. Prior projects include Sunny Meadows fence, library reading circle, North Town Hall Plaque. Dianne Sperry suggested a walkway between the Center and the senior housing might be a potential CPA project. Alan Fidler suggested inviting a member of the CPA committee to talk to us, or us sending a rep to one of their meetings to learn more.

Paul will look more into the application process.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- **Legislation Luncheon.** Scheduled for Sept. 13, organized by Rep. Golden. All state legislators have been invited. They will be paying for lunch and providing dessert.
- **Staff Update.** There are currently seven part- and full-time positions open, including a cook, additional substitutes for day program, a van driver. Waiting for medical report on Food

Manager to see when she will be able to return. An assistant for Betty Chaput has been hired.

- **Flooring Update.** Still waiting for additional quotes on floor replacement, which are being obtained by Kathleen Canavan from the Public Works department.
- **Roofing Update.** Measurements taken, start date not available yet.
- **Walkability Update.** The intern has completed her study. Debi will review it and share the findings with us at the next meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Capital Planning and Finance.** Alan Fidler reported that the operating budget has been prepared and will be submitted to Paul Cohen, Town Manager. On the capital planning side, three projects are being submitted this year. In order of priority, the capital projects are: a new parking lot; an engineering study for remodeled bathrooms; and an electronic sign.

Steve Flynn will contact vendors to get estimated costs of a new parking lot and engineering study so they can be plugged into the capital budget for next year.

- **Age-Friendly Network.** Fred reported there have been several meetings for interested committee participants. The first step in the process is to create a draft application and a small group was identified to work on the application. The next step is to create an action plan. AARP recommends a town-wide questionnaire as part of the planning process, but there are already several questionnaires going out to residents and so the usefulness of another one is being questioned. Debi and Alan will talk to the UMass Gerontology Department for guidance.

NEW BUSINESS

Louise Myers announced that the next MCOA conference is taking place from Oct. 24-26 at the Seacrest in Falmouth, MA. She and Debi encouraged as many as possible to attend. (If you sign up to volunteer, you can attend for free.)

NEXT MEETING: WED., OCTOBER 10, 9:00 a.m.

Minutes submitted by Ruth I'Anson, Recording Secretary