

MINUTES OF MEETING
COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

DATE: December 3, 2015

TIME AND PLACE: 10:00 a.m.
Room 208
Multi-service Center

IN ATTENDANCE: Francine Balanca
Corinne Baker
Sharon Frank
Judith Peterson
Nancy Sawyer
Muriel Slaney

ABSENT: Rosalie Bulu
Peter Dunlop

Meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. by Co-Chairwoman Sharon Frank

Minutes of October 1, 2015 distributed
(November meeting cancelled due to lack of quorum – no minutes)

Announcements:

1. Muriel Slaney addressed a concern regarding a rumor that the Board of Directors was responsible for the bus passes not being available to seniors for several months. Several members voiced the fact that the Board is not involved in issuing or securing these passes. It is the responsibility of CEDA to secure and distribute these passes. After speaking with a member of CEDA, Ms. Slaney informed the Board that the problem arose when UPS damaged the shipment of passes and it became difficult to obtain duplicates. Before attending the meeting, Ms. Slaney spoke with Pam Dudley, Office Manager, and was informed that passes are now available through the COA Office on a limited basis.
2. Member Slaney addressed a statement made to her that "People don't know what's going on until they read it in the Beacon." She informed this person that minutes of each meeting are available to everyone. They are posted on the Town website, Town Clerk's Office and in the COA office after certification. Ms. Slaney also stated that as a courtesy, in future, the minutes will be posted on the COA bulletin board as well. In addition, the Board of Director's meetings are open to everyone.
3. Ms. Slaney mentioned that the Town website portion of the Council on Aging was seriously out of date. She spoke with Matt Underhill and asked him to update the day and time of meetings. He agreed to do the updating. She also mentioned to him that portions of the bylaws were also in need of updating, but she would ask the Board to review the bylaws and correct any areas in need of updating. She also drew attention to

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the "Duties of the Board of Directors" portion of the site, specifically mentioning that one of the responsibilities of the Board was to "Institute new programs."

Citizen participation: None

Topics of Discussion:

1. Health Services

Chairman Dunlop was to update the Board on the Board of Health securing/hiring a town nurse to replace the VNA nurse whose contract expires on December 31, 2015. Due to his absence, there was no update and it was decided that this would be put on the January Agenda.

2. Use of Joseph Salerno's Gift

a. Ms. Slaney suggested the purchase of a table style shuffleboard to be placed in the Community Room of the COA. She stated that the table model was preferable as there was a possibility of people tripping over the floor version. Also it might not be possible for all seniors to stand for long periods to play the floor version.

b. M. Slaney suggested that some of this gift be used to purchase a gift card from Michael's for use of the Office Manager to begin her proposed craft program.

c. Co-chairwoman Sharon Frank suggested that we all consider these ideas and propose others that they might want to see this gift used for at the January meeting. She also mentioned the fact that this gift was given to the COA specifically for bringing new programs and activities to our seniors.

d. Member Judy Peterson suggested the purchase of food/gift cards. Member Corrine Baker questioned if there was any guarantee that these cards would be used only for seniors.

3. Use of Tremont Gift to the COA

a. Co-Chairwoman Frank distributed copies of the letter that accompanied the Tremont gift of \$600 to the COA in September of 2015. Ms. Frank read the letter aloud, emphasizing the desired use of these funds by Tremont: **"Please use this money for promotional items (e.g. Shirts, Pens, etc.) to bring awareness of the re-opening of the Wareham Council on Aging."**

Other Topics:

1. Ms. Slaney asked about the status of the Community Café/Mug and Muffin coffee hour stating that she had removed both from the Beacon until a decision had been made regarding the continuance of this coffee hour. Ms. Frank stated that the Community Café will continue at the MSC.
2. Member Nancy Sawyer outlined her discussions with members of the New Bedford Senior Travel Program. Ms. Sawyer distributed copies of their travel agenda for 2016. She stated that she would post this information on WCTV and asked Ms. Slaney to make it available in the Beacon. Ms. Sawyer said that the discussions she had with the representative of the travel program was mainly the concern regarding locations of taking on passengers. These locations are currently in New Bedford, but if ten (10) or more participants sign up for a particular program, there could be a stop established closer to Wareham.

Consent Agenda: Minutes of October 1, 2015 accepted on a vote of 6-0

Next Meeting Date: Thursday, January 7, 2015
10:00 a.m.
Room 208, Multi-Service Center

Meeting adjourned on a vote of 6-0 at 11:00 a.m.



Prepared by Muriel June Slaney, Clerk