

Wellesley Council on Aging Board Meeting
March 12, 2012

Attending: John G. Schuler, Joellen Toussaint, Bill Murphy, Sheryl Goodridge, Susan Kagan Lange, Kathleen Quirk, Linda Cohen, Sandra Budson, Mary Dummer, Dianne Sullivan, Sister Alice M. McCourt, Mary Bowers, Diane Lapon, Howard Johnson, Sheila Nugent, Ilene Sharp, Gayle Thieme, Kait Haas, Harriet Warshaw

Absent: Eleanor Sullivan, Andrew Pernokas, Stanley Hodges

The meeting began at 6:15 PM with Gayle Thieme introducing Eric Andersen who gave a demonstration of My Senior Center.com. This demonstration was planned following our last COA Board meeting and the request for more information/education on this program before deciding to invest monies in a new program to replace the present COATS system. A Q&A followed the input with Eric answering and also promising more info as needed.

Mary Dummer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:25 PM. There was no Citizen Speak and the Secretary's Report was accepted following some comments but no changes. There was no Treasurer's Report. Mary welcomed both Sheryl who is a member of the Legislative and Advocacy Committee and Howard who is a volunteer from SOAR 55.

A lengthy discussion on the demonstration/program followed with significant participation by Board members. Some of the issues/concerns discussed were: cost, privacy re: information, how to ensure sign-in validity, alternative systems, timing of implementation, question of advertizing during "down" time, liability/insurance, permission to install by Community Center, where to install, cost of system incurred by Town not COA, incorporation of MA laws for privacy and the possibility of ensuring more and accurate hard data to be used for EOEAs, grants, programs, etc. There was a general feeling/reality that the program would significantly reduce the number of hours now spent in hand inputting data.

Following this discussion, a unanimous vote was taken "to endorse the My Senior Center.com program for the COA as presented at this meeting pending further clarification of privacy, advertizing and insurance/liability." At this point, Gayle stated that she wanted each Board member to send her a list of questions which she would then collate and send to Eric for answers.

Gayle proceeded with the Administrator's Report and brought up the following: Volunteer recognition change of date to the Fall of 2012/exact date to be determined, three Springwell lunch volunteers will be oriented, questions around the Newsletter contract that she had signed as well as giving out a draft of policies and procedures re: the Volunteer Driver Program that she requested the Board to evaluate and get back to her by Wednesday at 4:00 PM.

Mary Dummer brought up Al Robinson's response to question of fundraising by Board but there were no questions. The issue of registration and fees was seen as on-going as well as the increased cost of ridership on the bus. Andrew Pernokas has been ill but will be returning to meetings in the near future. In responding to a question, Mary stated that she and Susan Kagan Lange would be meeting to discuss/appoint a Nominating Committee.

Sheila Nugent gave out a handout of candidates for Town Meeting according to precinct who in one way or another mentioned senior center when responding to the League of Women Voters question: "which 2 issues facing our town do you consider most important, and how would you address them?"

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

The next Council on Aging Board meeting is on April 23, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Wellesley Community Center.

Respectfully submitted by
Sister Alice M. McCourt, SND