

Wellesley Council on Aging Board Meeting
February 27, 2012

Attending: Mary Bowers, Harriet Warshaw, Gayle Thieme, Mary Dummer, Linda Cohen, Sandy Budson, Stanley Hodges, John Schuler, Bill Murphy, Susan Kagan Lange, Joellen Toussaint, Dianne Sullivan, Sheila Nugent, Sister Alice McCourt. Kathleen Quirk

Absent: Eleanor Sullivan, Andrew Pernokas, Diane Lapon

Mary Dummer, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There was no Citizen Speak and the Secretary's Report was accepted. The Treasurer's Report was given by Gayle both verbally and on paper. It was noted that Human Resources gave \$1,000.00 to pay temporary help during Kait Haas' maternity leave and a motion for other needed monies from the COA account has gone to Town Meeting. The EOEA monies will go to the bus account.

Mary then prefaced the Committee Reports with the plea for each Board member to listen and give serious consideration to joining one of the committees. The Springwell report included the need for someone to commit to a monthly meeting as well as an announcement that the organization was moving to 307 Waverly Oaks in Waltham in September. Programs and funding were also commented on. The Public Relations report included its goal statement as well as more details on the May 11 program which is front page of Highlights. A need for volunteers to help decorate and set up was raised as well as a need for a photographer for the night (and on-going) and the need to have a response from Al Robinson re: the mandate that Board members cannot do fundraising. A request has been sent for clarification and members requested that the answer be put in writing for transparency. A request was also made to Board members to brainstorm seniors in town whose stories could be written up re: experiences, volunteerism and on-going histories of living/working in Wellesley. The Friends report centered around the need to create and/or affirm by-laws. It was stated that both the Friends /Foundation of the Library by-laws were being used as prototypes. It was also stated that monies could be accepted by the present Friends organization while the 501 c 3 status was being worked on and that there is an on-going need to increase participation in the organization as well as encourage new leadership. The Transportation report included the need for more stats re: present usage of the COA bus as well as clarity around the goals for a new contract which comes up this year. Some information re: MWRTA was given. The Legislative/Advocacy report included a goal statement as well as committee names. The question of how to communicate information/education was central with a request to get as many e-mail addresses as possible as quickly as possible. There was a concern raised as to how to keep seniors abreast of issues in town that will or could affect them.

The Administrative Report followed with Gayle giving information as well as raising concerns/issues. The Springwell lunch numbers are very low and there is a need for volunteers. There are 4 Wellesley residents participating in the Olin College program. New programs were pointed out in Highlights but the issue of registration and payment were central and encouraged much discussion and clarification. A strong stand was taken

on payment being given before participation in programs as well as an on-going look at how to smooth out registration stresses for staff and participants. It was announced that there was a mutual resignation of Ted Behr from the Volunteer position and another announcement about the Volunteer Event being held on April 20 and a call for help for this event could be directed to Gayle. There was feedback given re: assembling the newsletter and the need for more people from Wellesley Weston Lifetime Learning to accomplish this task. Gayle will speak to this concern with those involved. A short explanation of the potential for a Volunteer Clearinghouse was given with a promise to inform as things progress. A grant has been sent in to the Wellesley Hills Women's Club for transportation monies. The Volunteer Drivers program stats were given out and the need for a better phone system or the need for issues to be cleared up by Verizon was brought up.

A discussion on COATS was tabled and the option for a demo was brought up until/for the next Board meeting.

A discussion around the date for the next Board meeting was brought up as there are several other meetings taking place in March which would limit participation. It was agreed that March 12 would be the only feasible date for maximum participation.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 PM.

The next Council on Aging Board meeting is on March 12, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Wellesley Community Center.

Respectfully submitted by
Sister Alice M. McCourt, SND