

Wellesley Council on Aging Board Meeting  
May 21, 2012

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

Absent: Eleanor Sullivan, Andrew Pernokas, Diane Lapon, Kathleen Quirk

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 out by Gayle and she reported that there were no concerns about meeting the goals by July 1. She commented on the Conferences deficit and stated that the Professional Services money needs have to be agreed to by the Board of Selectman. The Bus Report was passed out and it is in the red but will soon be in the black. A more detailed discussion about this will happen in/at the Transportation Report.

Public Relations was reported on and feedback on the May event was given by Sandra Budson. A general, whole-hearted congratulations was given by the Board for the success of the first night event of the COA. Publicity was widespread and many new people not only attended the event but participated and stayed to the very end. The success of the event only brought more need/attention for future night events.

Susan Kagan Lange gave an update on the Senior Center as well as Harriet Warshaw. The major topic continues to be the need for parking and how that can be fulfilled so that the AL site will be a reality. Meetings with the Board of Selectman, the Saint James Committee, the Natural Resources Committee, the Planning Committee and forming some new committees moving forward will be happening in the next few weeks. It was reported that much will happen around these concerns/issues before the June 13 Town Meeting. Susan had proposed/composed a statement for the Board and requested that comments be posted on the email for refinement and then she would bring the statement back to the COA Board before presenting it. A request was made for this final statement to be posted.

Harriet Warshaw presented a power-point presentation around an education series to be held at the library immediately including the topics: traffic and parking, education about need for stand alone senior center, community relations and media plan. No committee was called for at this time.

Dianne Sullivan updated statistics on an audit that the committee has been doing on the use of the COA bus and the Volunteer Driver Program. A proposal was made to limit the ads for the Volunteer Driver Program in the Townsman and to increase the visibility for the use of the COA bus in the newspaper. She stated that the meetings around the COA bus contract are going forward with the agreement that the contract would be yearly for the time being. Many Board members suggested ideas for future direction of transportation needs/possibilities.

Linda Cohen reported on and distributed a comprehensive proposal for COA Board members to be voted on at the June meeting.

Gayle Thieme then gave the Administration Update which primarily included information on the replacement of the telephone system and the computer system. Bids for the phone system will be forwarded to the Town and there was a unanimous vote to accept the proposal of the MySeniorCenter.com computer system with the funding to be determined in June. An immediate need for a tv was proposed and a unanimous decision for Gayle to go forward and buy one was given by the Board. Congratulations was given to Laura for becoming a certified program manager through MCOA. It was recommended that she be invited to the June Board meeting for a more detailed description of the importance of this accomplishment.

The meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM.

The next Council on Aging Board meeting is on June 18, 2012 at 7:00 PM at the Wellesley Community Center.

Respectfully submitted by  
Sister Alice M. McCourt, SND