

Wellesley Council on Aging Board Meeting
April 22, 2013

Attending: Bill Murphy, Miguel Lessing, Mary Bowers, Susan Kagan Lange, Gayle Thieme, Sandra Budson, Joanne Kilsdonk, Dianne Sullivan, Linda Cohen, John G. Schuler, Mary Dummer, Sheila Nugent, Diane Lapon, Harriet Warshaw, Sister Alice M. McCourt

Absent: Joellen Toussaint, Eleanor Sullivan, Andrew Pernokas, Stanley G. Hodges

Susan Kagan Lange, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:45 PM. There was no Citizen Speak.

The Secretary's Report was accepted with the following changes: Jill Dube will also take on many but not all responsibilities of Laura Veligor and in the Treasurer's Report that overspending in some categories will be offset by savings in other categories.

The Tolles Parsons Center Update was given by Harriet Warshaw and she began by expressing gratitude for all the support that has helped to move the new senior center project forward as was exhibited in the vote at Town Meeting to fund the Design. The 147 for and 42 against vote as well as the more than 5 hour debate signaled the on-going concerns: the AL site continues to need more parking even though spaces have been promised across the street; the building was too small from the beginning; the understanding of the collaborative concept and the expenses in general. Harriet recommended the need for a corporate stance from the COA re: issues as well as a need for more support in/at Town Meeting. She also recommended that the COA chair go to the Board of Selectman meeting and thank them for their support at Citizen Speak.

The Director's Report was given by Gayle Thieme and included the following: the announcement that the Senior Activities Director has resigned and that a 35 hour position would be advertised as well as a 15 hour position for Volunteer Coordinator; the question of how to say good-bye to the Senior Activities Director was brought up as well as the reclassification of the Program/Office Assistant; the budget will be sent out electronically going forward and the use of e mail blasts was discussed. An update was provided regarding the active negotiations taking place between the COA and M&L Transit systems for senior transportation (COA bus) for FY 2014. The Board strongly recommended that Gayle require M&L to respond to her request by the close of the business day on April 24. Staff reports had been sent in the mail as usual.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Diane Lapon on paper and centered around the following questions: move monies to transportation; approve budget; change design of report; where do monies come from inside Town; and a unanimous vote to use Gift Acct to pay for food for tonight's meeting.

The Board Fund was brought up by Mary Dummer in terms of what to do to honor/respond to the death of Lorraine Tolman who had been a COA Board member for many years. A card had been sent and it was decided that the conversation would come up again when the new senior center is a reality.

The Nominating Committee Report was given by Mary Bowers and included the question of who would be vice chair as no name had surfaced yet.

Mary Dummer reported on the Public Relations Committee and shared that 80 tickets had been sold for the Fifties Frolics and all seemed to be in place for a successful evening.

Miguel Lessing reported on the 900 Worcester Street Committee and nothing is being presented at Town Meeting until property is sold to Town.

Other Business included: Evening Series a success but what will the future hold; Golf Outing planned for June 26/rain date July 11; Music Project still being planned but no details yet; Long Range Committee will meet on Friday; questions about COA and Friends relationship still under discussion for clarification; Executive Board and Director of Senior Services met regarding review of by-laws and recommended an Ad Hoc committee as well as a request to send out by-laws to all Board members for updating.

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 PM.

The next Council on Aging Board meeting will be on May 20, 2013 at the Wellesley Community Center at 7:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted by

Sister Alice M. McCourt, SND