

Wellesley Council on Aging Board Meeting  
June 17, 2013

Attending: John G. Schuler, Bill Murphy, Mary Bowers, Sandy Budson, Dianne Sullivan, Mary Dummer, Joellen Toussaint, Sheila Nugent, Diane Lapon, Susan Kagan Lange, Gayle Thieme, Sister Alice M. McCourt

Absent: Joanne Kilsdonk, Linda Cohen, Miguel Lessing, Eleanor Sullivan, Andrew Pernokas, Stanley G. Hodges, Harriet Warshaw

Susan Kagan Lange, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. There was no Citizen Speak and the Secretary's Report was accepted with the following additions: there had been a suggestion that the COA register with NISC ( National Institute of Senior Centers) and this has been done and the Board had taken a vote to support/direct Gayle to negotiate a contract with M+L. Harriet Warshaw was absent at the last meeting.

The Treasurer's Report was given by Gayle Thieme both verbally and in writing. Several topics were highlighted including the \$145.00 membership fee for NISC as well as a q+a around gift account questions. It was again stated that a new format is in the making. Bus stats were handed out and it was stated that there would be a surplus this year of funds which would be put towards next year's budget for COA bus as contracted with M&L. Fuel adjustment has been followed and monitored and some monies will be reimbursed by M&L due to this contract oversight. The bus contract has been signed, the hours reduced by one daily and this change has been announced in Highlights as well as sent out via postcard to all known passengers. If a person needs the bus beyond the stated hours, the Volunteer Drivers Program would be an option. It was pointed out that the MWRTA program for the town of Wellesley for fixed route bus service has been explained in an article in the Townsman and more details will follow when decided.

The Director's Report was given by Gayle Thieme and included the return date of Outreach Worker, Laura Veligor on June 24 and announced the hire of Ashley Shaheen as Senior Activities Coordinator beginning on June 25 for 35 hours a week. It was agreed that on July 9 at 9:30 AM, Ashley would be available to meet and greet at a coffee. It was also stated that there was a meeting between the Wellesley Community Center, the COA and some BOS to iron out issues of communication, damage to COA property and reinstatement of some action steps to improve communication. Restitution was agreed to by WCC. The other discussion was around the Springwell lunch program and a continual decline in numbers as well as the volunteer issues that surround that. No decision was made but Gayle continues to monitor.

The Chair's Report was given by Susan Kagan Lange and included the By-law Committee handout as well as an Update on the Long Range Planning Committee which is dealing with the suggestions that were given to them at last month's meeting as well as some topics suggested at this meeting such as transportation, mission statement, what is a COA today and how to

incorporate the plan/goals of the town for the next ten years with the plans for the COA. The next meeting is on June 26.

Susan shared that she had met with Barbara Peacock-Coady re: Friends and their Mission to do fundraising. She also shared that there has been no further discussion re: ethics of COA relationship with Friends.

John Schuler was invited to give a short explanation of the Inter Board Meeting that had taken place last week and was well attended by the COA. The budget, override and future projections re: implications for a new senior center was the hot topic.

Following this was an update on the Public Relations Committee by Mary Dummer. She stated that the committee had agreed on three goals for the coming year: a speaker's bureau, a new brochure and an increase in the use of the internet. The other issue was the question of chair of the committee for the coming year. It was agreed that Judith Keefe would be invited to be an Associate member of the Board so that she could chair the committee as well as learn more of the inner workings of the Board.

A celebration of our year together as well as the affirmation/gratitude for the leadership of Susan Kagan Lange as Chair followed with food and gift. Gayle was also thanked for her Directorship.

Diane Lapon handed out a draft of sources of funds and use of funds which was agreed to be a helpful tool and discussion followed as to how often this would be handed out. No decision reached but affirmation as to need/help.

Mary Bowers handed out the slate from the Nomination Committee and there was a unanimous decision to be accepted as well as an immediate communication to Hans Larsen as requested.

John Schuler spoke to the Tolles Parsons Center Planning committee and shared issues of finishing the basement floor, deciding on interim features and using a video for town meeting.

Mary Bowers spoke to/of the Sunshine Club and was affirmed for the work she does.

Susan acknowledged the talents, time and expertise of the Board during her time of leadership with a personal gift and stated that she would send letters of acceptance to new members as well as meet with the new Chair before the end of June.

The meeting adjourned at 9:12 PM.

There will be no meetings in July and August and the date of the September meeting has yet to be announced.

Respectfully submitted by  
Sister Alice M. McCourt, SND