

**Wellesley Council on Aging Board Meeting
October 28, 2013**

Attending:, Mary Bowers, Sandra Budson , Linda Cohen, Jack Cross, Mary Dummer, Tom Kealy, Judy Keefe, Diane Lapon, Penny Lawrence, Miguel Lessing, Bill Murphy, Sheila Nugent , Shirley Quinn , John Schuler, Dianne Sullivan, Joellen Toussaint, Gayle Thieme, Director of Senior Services and Linda Clifford, Health and Social services Administrator.

Absent:, Stanley Hodges, Susan Kagan-Lange, Joanne Kilsdonk, Sr. Alice McCourt, Eleanor Sullivan, Richard tenEyck and Harriet Warshaw.

John Schuler, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Selectman Terri Tsagaris briefed the Board on the latest developments on the Tolles Parsons Building project. Due to the building size, a Project of Significant Impact (PSI) approval from the Planning Board (PB) is required to consider the impact on town services. The PB vote 3-2 in favor is not sufficient as a supermajority is necessary (4-1). The PB did not state grounds for the refusal as required by the procedure. The Permanent Building Committee (the PSI requester) and the Board of Selectmen are evaluating their next action. The PB has fourteen days from the time of the hearing to provide a written report, indicating why minimum service standards were not met, the only reason for a rejection.

There were no requests for Citizen Speak.

Linda Clifford was introduced as the new Health and Social services Administrator since October 21. She was warmly welcomed.

Minutes of the September 16, 2013 meeting were unanimously accepted as amended after a motion by Sheila Nugent, seconded by Mary Drummer.

Questions on the staff reports were answered by Gayle Thieme, particularly the after-office hours' space use at the WCC, any restrictions on having out of town volunteers and the updates to program instructors' agreements. Gayle also described events at the Massachusetts COA conference that she and other COA staff attended. Gayle distributed the conference booklet which outlined the various workshops that were attended by staff.

John Schuler reviewed future board meeting date conflicts and there was consensus to changing the dates of next January to the 6th and of next March to the 17th.

Diane Sullivan, Chair of the Transportation Committee briefly described the MWRTA fixed Route 8, indicating all information can be found in the MWRTA website (<http://www.mwrta.com>). She added that there are buses to Boston hospitals three times a day starting at Framingham with the closest stop to Wellesley being in Natick. COA senior bus options for FY15 were presented, with the preferred option which provides most flexibility waiting for cost data from Hans Larsen. The information is urgently required for the FY15 budget preparation.

Brief updates on the Finance and PR Committees followed.

The Board voted to continue the COA Board fund – solely supported with Board members' contributions – after a first year in existence. Motion presented by Linda Cohen, seconded by Diane Lapon and unanimously approved.

On Other Business, Gayle Thieme informed that a large group of approximately 50 people attended the latest lecture of the evening/weekend lecture series co-sponsored with the Wellesley Free Library and that the Simons Trust Fund has made a significant contribution of over \$11,000 to the COA, with monies for the first time directed to programs in addition to senior transportation needs.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for November 18 at the Wellesley Community Center at 7:00 PM.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40PM.

Respectfully presented by
Miguel Lessing, Secretary