

**Wellesley Council on Aging Board Meeting
September 16, 2013**

Attending: Sandra Budson, Mary Bowers, Linda Cohen, Jack Cross, Mary Dummer, Susan Kagan-Lange, Judy Keefe, Joanne Kilsdonk, Diane Lapon, Penny Lawrence, Miguel Lessing, Sr. Alice McCourt, Bill Murphy, John Schuler, Dianne Sullivan, Richard tenEyck, Joellen Toussaint, Gayle Thieme, Director of Senior Services and Ashley Rae Shaheen, Senior Activities Coordinator.

Absent: Stanley Hodges , Sheila Nugent, Shirley Quinn, Eleanor Sullivan and Harriet Warshaw.

John Schuler, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM. There were no requests for Citizen Speak.

John welcomed new Board members, highlighted that this year two male board members are officers when generally the board has mostly had female members, requested members review the meeting calendar and report any problems and encouraged members to participate in COA activities and visit the COA offices regularly.

Minutes of the June 7, 2013 meeting were unanimously accepted as presented after a motion by Joellen Toussaint and seconded by Linda Cohen.

Ashley Shaheen was introduced as the new Senior Activities Coordinator since June 25. Her report to the Board generated good dialogue. Issues discussed included space limitations and potential additional costs for after hour programming, day trips' transportation, participation in the WEF sponsored Spelling Bee, Newsletter contents and look and participation in the COA Activities Committee.

Brief updates on Finance, Long Range Strategic Planning were orally presented. Judy Keefe, Chair of the PR Committee informed of the 11/6 Senior Wellness Fair at Waterstone where the COA has been invited to participate and the COA will have a table. Work has started for a larger Internet use and presence and the intention to use the Speakers Bureau to fill programs while relieving staff's work.

Diane Sullivan, Chair of the Transportation Committee confirmed the satisfactory conclusion of terms renegotiation with the COA bus service provider M&L Transit Systems for FY14. This year's services are reduced by one hour a day. To promote bus usage, a user incentive program has been put into effect. Updates on transportation options for future years when some of grant revenues expire were presented and the Board authorized to continue conversations with MWRTA on their possible transportation services.

Chair John Schuler left the meeting to attend the Selectmen's Board meeting. Vice Chair Sandra Budson took over.

Brief reports were orally presented on 900 Worcester Street and on the Tolles Parsons Center. Responses from the State Ethics Commission to questions on the arms-length relationship between the Board and the Friends of COA were distributed for future discussion.

She also requested a vote supporting or opposing Alcoholic Beverages in Municipal Buildings – which the Board of Selectmen will most likely present to the 2014 Annual Town Meeting. A unanimous vote in support was recorded after a motion by Linda Cohen, second by Sandy Budson.

The COA Board voted to use \$75.00 from the COA gift account for an insert in the Nov/Dec 2013 Newsletter.

The next Board meeting is scheduled for October 28 at the Wellesley Community Center at 7:00 PM. (This date was agreed to after the meeting).

Respectfully presented by

Miguel Lessing, Secretary