

Acton Council On Aging Board Meeting Minutes for 6/16/2008

Present: Steve Baran, Chair; Gena Manalan, Vice-Chair; Mike Gowing, Secretary; Paul Turner; Jean Fleming, Director; Sally Thompson; Ed Carell, Treasurer; William Ely; Pat Ellis; Barbara Tallone

Absent: Paulina Knibbe, B.O.S.; Dan Silva, Police Liaison; Suzanne Brozek, Liaison, Minuteman Senior Services; Connie Ingram, co-chair of the Friends of the COA; Anita Dodson

Call to Order:

Steve Baran called the meeting to order at 3:45 PM on 6/16/2008 at Gena Manalan's house.

Minutes of 5/12/08:

The May minutes were accepted with minor exceptions.

Joke of the month – Bill Ely

Financial Report:

Ed Carell reported on an opening balance at 6/16/2008 of \$3,001 and non-personnel expenditures of \$4,119 for a closing deficit balance of -\$1,118; drawing on unused personnel budget surplus offset this negative balance.

Director's Report:

Jean Fleming reported that the current newsletter would cover the summer months.

She indicated the status on the following:

- She thanked the COA board for all of it's efforts on behalf of the furtherance of the Senior Center expansion and the participation of various programs, such as W.U., Visioning sessions, coffee & conversation, etc. Steve seconded this sentiment.
- The Senior Center has purchased several DVD educational series. These include: Planet Earth, Gardens of the World, John Adams, & understanding poetry. Gena suggested a "poetry slam" to encourage more participation in the poetry programs.
- Looking for instructors for Tai Chi and fall prevention to increase the offerings.
- Legislative forum was postponed due to time conflict – they are trying to reschedule it.
- Two summer trips are scheduled:
 - Newport Flower show – Jun. 27th
 - Pawsox outing – Jul. 30th

Report on the program and site selection committee progress:

Gena updated the group on the current status of the program selection committee – including a detailed lease space requirement report. Mike Gowing brought everyone up to speed on the efforts of the site selection committee. The groups are continuing the quest for a new, improved senior center. The three basic decisions are boiling down to: a) modifying the existing site, b) leasing a new space and c) building a new building on town owned land.

Legislative Update:

Nikki Tsongas has opened a location in Acton – it was suggested that she be invited to the senior center to hear input on national issues with regards to seniors.

Visioning meeting:

Steve indicated that the town and their hired marketing firm was holding three more visioning meetings on June, 25th & 26th at 7pm and June 28th at 10am at Parker-Damon bldg. They have requested a five minute presentation from all town departments and it was suggested that the presentation the Paulina gave the town

on the senior center expansion should be submitted to them. It was asked that COA members attend some (or all) of these meetings.

Membership:

Anita was absent

New Business

Mike suggested the addition of a minority (Chinese?) person to fill a vacant slot on the COA board to better represent the diversity of Acton.

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Old Business: None

The “joke of the month” will rotate to Pat Ellis for the September meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the COA Board will be scheduled at 3:45 PM on Monday, September 8th, 2008 at the senior center.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Mike Gowing
Secretary

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