



## **Acton Council On Aging Board Meeting Minutes for 5/12/2008**

**Present:** Steve Baran, Chair; Mike Gowing, Secretary; Paul Turner; Jean Fleming, Director; Paulina Knibbe, B.O.S.; Dan Silva, Police Liaison; Sally Thompson; Ed Carell, Treasurer; William Ely; Pat Ellis

**Absent:** Gena Manalan, Vice-Chair; Suzanne Brozek, Liaison, Minuteman Senior Services; Connie Ingram, co-chair of the Friends of the COA; Anita Dodson; Barbara Tallone

### **Call to Order:**

Steve Baran called the meeting to order at 3:45 PM on 5/12/2008 at the Senior Center.

### **Minutes of 3/10/08:**

The April minutes were accepted without exception.

Joke of the month – Bill Ely

### **Financial Report:**

Ed Carell reported on an opening balance at 5/12/2008 of \$3,235 and non-personnel expenditures of \$234 for a closing balance of \$3,001.

### **Director's Report:**

Jean Fleming reported that any input to the May newsletter would need to be in by end of week. She indicated the status on the following:

- Chinese lunch was held and drew about 70 people.
- The conclusion of the "Most Famous Trials" series drew about 60-70 people and was followed by a field trip to the courthouse – it was well received.
- Live jazz Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup> at the senior center.
- Legislative forum was postponed due to time conflict – they are trying to reschedule it.
- Volunteer recognition event will be held June 12<sup>th</sup>.
- An Indian lunch and "Bollywood" movie is scheduled for May 25<sup>th</sup>.
- COA breakfast will feature a presentation on antique autos by Dick Krug who hopes to bring his antique 1931 Ford.
- The recent evening series was well sold (21) but sparsely attended (9) – a determination to call and remind people was decided. Jean asked the board whether they had any ideas for future evening programs.
- Board training is being offered by Emmet Schmarsow at various locations/dates.
- Two summer trips are scheduled:
  - Newport Flower show – Jun. 27<sup>th</sup>
  - Pawsox outing – Jul. 30<sup>th</sup>

"Wellness University" April 26<sup>th</sup>. Enjoyed about 100 attendees; COA members manning the table included Steve Baran, Bill Ely, Paul Turner, Pat Ellis & Director Jean.

### **Report on the Steering Committee progress:**

Paulina Knibbe updated the group on the current status of the Steering Committee. The group is 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. Mike Gowing brought everyone up to speed on the efforts of the site selection committee.

### **Friends of the COA**

Connie Ingram will assume the position of President with Sue Chase as Vice-President.

**Citizen's police academy**

Dan Silva spoke about the upcoming police academy – a ten week training session demonstrating all the capabilities of the police department and their relation to the community, such as: dog handling (K-9), stables, the safety facility, MCI Concord, etc. No more than 15 people per academy. A sign up sheet was located in the Director's office.

**Legislative Update:**

Michael Festa: Secretary of Elder Affairs, presented at Concord Senior Center. He discussed what he hopes to accomplish as the new Secretary - He was accompanied by Sandra Albright, the Asst. Secretary.

**Visioning meeting:**

Paul indicated that the town and their hired marketing firm was holding their second meeting May 31<sup>st</sup> at Parker-Damon bldg. They will also be conducting a phone survey about town from May 21<sup>st</sup> through June 15th. Jean mentioned that the seniors should be made aware of the survey as they are usually discouraged from taking strange calls – it was suggested for the next edition of the senior center newsletter make mention of it. The deadline for the next issue (a three month issue) is May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

**Membership:** Steve Baran indicated that all members and associate members of the COA board need to be sworn in each year – the new year begins July first. Ed Carell indicated that he was likely to resign as he is only around for 5 months out of the year. It was noted that we need to speak with Gena regarding the best method to change individual member's status from permanent to associate or vice versa.

**New Business**

Bill Ely brought a survey from Wayland regarding seniors remaining in their homes – Jean asked for a copy. Mike mentioned the change in the auto insurance rules this year and suggested a local agent (like Gallant or Brewer & Lord) come to the center to speak to the seniors about the choices. The state web site is very poor.

**Old Business: None**

The "joke of the month" will rotate to Dan for the June meeting.

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the COA Board will be scheduled at 3:45 PM on Monday, June 16th, 2008 at Gena Manalan's house

**Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Mike Gowing  
Secretary