

Acton Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes for 2/08/2010

Present: Barbara Tallone, Chair; Charlie Aaronson, Vice-Chair; Sally Thompson, Secretary; Stephen Baran; Pat Ellis; Paul Turner; Jean Fleming, Director; Mike Gowing, Liaison from Board of Selectmen; Connie Ingram, President, Friends of the COA.

Absent: Gena Manalan, Jim Papachristos; Treasurer; Barbara Willson; Detective Dan Silva, Liaison Police Department

Call to Order:

The meeting was called to order by Barbara Tallone at 3:49 PM on 2/08/2010 at the Senior Center.

Review of the Minutes- Sally Thompson

The minutes of the Acton Council on Aging Board meeting for 1/11/10 were accepted with amendment.

COA Chair Report- Barbara Tallone

Barbara Tallone reviewed information related to the new State Ethics Commission's mandatory education and training requirements for public employees and Board and Commission members and volunteers. Each person will be given a summary of the conflict of interest law and must sign the last page acknowledging they have received the law. After completion of the on-line training program on or before April 2, a completion certificate will be issued.

Director's Report- Jean Fleming

Windows have been inserted into the entryway doors. This has vastly improved entryway safety for the COA. Jean and staff visited a local facility to examine partition options for a possible future work project.

The Newsletter for March and April is nearing production. Highlights for February and March include:

February 11 – Valentine's Luncheon with music

March 17 - St Patrick's Luncheon. COA board members are encouraged to attend.

March 19 - COA breakfast with Jamie Eldredge

The Friends of the COA and COA staff have put together a number of multi-cultural programs funded by the Friends of the COA with funds from the United Way. There will be multicultural movies and the book group will have selections with cultural diversity.

During March and April there will be a display of multicultural art.

March 25 – Indian Luncheon

April 8 – Chinese Luncheon

April 28 – dessert reception with entertainment focused on different cultures

Masters of Enterprise – 4 part series

We are preparing for a 0% increase budget for 2011 with proposed decreased budget for postage, printing, and minuteman services. The Transportation Committee is awaiting

the grant to be signed by the D.O.T. Plans for a transportation coordinator, changes in shuttle service, and taxi vouchers cannot be implemented without the signature. The fiscal year 2010 Formula Grant has been approved and the COA is in the process of hiring a Health and Wellness Coordinator. This person will work closely with COA staff to bring presenters focused on health and wellness to the senior center. A yoga instructor will be included.

Liaison to BOS- Mike Gowing

A brief discussion of the Transportation Committee was followed by information about the BOS becoming involved in delivering Meals on Wheels.

Liaison to Friends of the COA

Connie Ingram reported that the Friends have created an income of \$20,951.28. Expenses have been \$14,913 thus far. The spring appeal to local businesses is ahead. The Friends of the COA Annual Appeal is doing well. The quilt raffle has raised about \$2000.

Liaison to Healthy Communities-Health Department Group

Barbara Willson is not present. Barbara Tallone read a written report provided by Barbara Willson. The HOPE survey forms are completed and will be distributed by email. Ten areas will be assessed using a 4 point rating scale. Possible email lists for town were discussed.

Liaison to the United Way- Paul Turner

Paul reported on the United Way Newsletter. Peter Ashton has been selected to be the treasurer starting in March 2010. It appears that approximately 18% of funds are directed toward needs of seniors.

Liaison to Minuteman Senior Services- Charlie Aaronson

Due to budget cuts there is a growing waiting list for individuals to get home health care. There is a need for volunteers to do grocery shopping and participate in a fall prevention program. Minuteman is looking for nurses for employment. Minuteman is also looking for donations of items for an online auction.

Old Business:

See COA Chair Report above.

New Business

A discussion of a State House Bill on safe driving that is now in the Senate. The Bill is supported by AARP. It includes addressing texting and other distractions while driving. It increases medical reporting to the Massachusetts RMV.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:50 p.m.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting of the COA Board is March 8, 2010.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sally Thompson, Secretary