

NEWBURYPORT COUNCIL ON AGING

January 16, 2014

The Board of Directors of the Newburyport Council on Aging met on this date at the Salvation Army building.

Chairperson Frances Munroe called the meeting to order at 9:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

| | |
|-----------------------------|------------------|
| Charles Carroll | Richard Eaton |
| Miller Graf | Jo An Kincaid |
| Jane Kelley | Cynthia Muir |
| Frances Munroe | Frances Reslewic |
| Jack Ronan | Martha True |
| Roseann Robillard, Director | |

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Yvonne McQuilkin

GUEST: Mary Kelly, Activities Director of the COA

The Secretary's minutes of November 21, 2013, were presented for approval. There being no discussion, it was moved, seconded, and

VOTED: to accept the Secretary's minutes of the meeting of November 21, 2013, as presented.

SENIOR/COMMUNITY CENTER:

Jane Kelley and Yvonne McQuilkin met with the designer of the new Senior/Community Center. Furniture for living room, chairs for function room were chosen to reflect the overall lovely color scheme of pale blues and greens. Also 5 pieces for the exercise room were selected including two treadmills, elliptical, bicycle, etc. Director Roseann Robillard and Jane Kelley explained the detail on each piece of furniture, equipment and flooring. Jack Ronan spoke about the need for skid proof flooring that will track dirt and water. He also stressed durability and "cleanability" of the materials. Nothing has been ordered yet. Another meeting will be held next Thursday. Roseann stated that every detail has been covered. Jane Kelley expressed her excitement. "It's actually going to happen."

Pictures of sample signs for the Bresnahan School and the Senior Center were presented. A lively discussion followed: Consensus was that the proposed sign for the Bresnahan School placed at the High Street entrance is misleading as the entrance to the school is not on High Street.

Several suggestions were put out for further discussion.

- 1) The school sign on High Street should read "school buses only"
- 2) The school sign should be at the entrance of the school on North Atkinson Street
- 3) A school sign should be on the corner of High and No. Atkinson Streets with an arrow
- 4) A school sign should be on the corner of Low and No. Atkinson Streets with an arrow
- 5) Sign on High Street should say "Senior/Community Center" and "school buses only"
- 6) A type of sign could be designed to change wording at the appropriate time.

FRIENDS OF THE NEWBURYPORT C O A

Jane Kelley reported that "Got Books" has gone out of business. No money has been received by the Friends since June and the Friends have not received \$600. Director Robillard reported that complaints have been received from people who could not leave books because the box was full and would like the

size of the box to be expanded. The Friends of the COA do not want any further association with Got Books. Olga McFarland is looking into "Recycle That".

A discussion was held regarding money raised by the Friends. Some of the money will be used to support activities that would help seniors. Chairperson Frances Munroe explained why the Friends of COA was started and that the money raised was to be for the Council on Aging. Discussion was continued.

ACTIVITIES:

Mary Kelly, Activities Director, outlined some of the activities that she is working on including

- 1) How To Go On Ice and Snow to be held at the Newburyport Council on Aging on February 21st at 12:00 noon to learn more about safe driving during winter months.
- 2) Health and wellness lectures through the year in conjunction with Anna Jaques Hospital
- 3) Bowling every Wednesday 10:30a.m. – 12:00n Cost \$5.00 including shoes.
- 4) Chess Club – Chococoa will let the COA use their facility at the Tannery. Looking for an instructor. Jack Ronan would consider teaching chess if people are interested.
- 5) Walking Group: 8 people would meet from 12:00 – 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday at Latitudes. Ten times around = one mile. Eventually the group will walk outside.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Robillard distributed a 5-page report explaining many items that will appear in the next COA Newsletter. Among the items is:

- 1) An article about Mass Senior Action Council, an organization dedicated to social and economic justice for all. To learn more about this organization and starting a chapter call the COA office at 978-462-8650
- 2) On March 13th at 10:30 a.m. an e-Reader meeting will be held at the Library
- 3) Tax Help will be available again this year. Guidelines are explained in the newsletter and appointments can be made by calling the COA

Roseann reported on the State of the City address and also spoke about the shingles vaccine.

Many interesting Overnight and Day Trips have been planned beginning in March. A computer program "Am I Making the Most of My Money" regarding budget and financial goals is being offered. Details regarding these events and much more information of interest can be found in the February COA Newsletter.

The Director explained the City budget process and talked about the timelines for budget preparation and reporting. Mid February will be the deadline for submission.

OLD BUSINESS:

The plaque in memory of Thomas Lyons is in the Library. Plans will be made to have a picture taken.

There being no further business it was moved, seconded and
VOTED: to adjourn at 10:40 a.m.

The next meeting will be held on February 20, 2014, at 9:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Frances Reslewic, Secretary