

Minutes of COA Board Meeting – July 12, 2017

Board Members Present: Bertha Anderson, Dorothy-Jean Brown, Esther Keaney, Linda Moffitt and Alice Wadden

Excused Absence: Pat Gold, Carol Airasian, Burt Greenberg and Mary Keenan

Staff Members Present: Anne-Marie Gagnon, Director; Deborah Dunn, Program Coordinator; and Rae Grassia, Principal Account Clerk.

Dorothy-Jean called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM.

Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

The Board members reviewed the minutes of the June 13, 2017 meeting. Linda Moffitt made a motion to approve and Dorothy-Jean seconded. Passed.

Review of Financial Statements

Anne-Marie reviewed the Financial Statements for the end of FY '17. Line items and grants were spent down and used to purchase such items as chess sets for the Chess Club, a new microwave for the kitchen, a new information display making access more user friendly, a file cabinet for our Case Worker, a hand held scanner for the senior shuttle and new hand sanitizer dispenser. We also purchased Pocket Talker brand personal amplification systems. The amplification is fantastic and they work by taking out background noise which will be useful to seniors while watching a movie, playing a game or having conversations.

The Building Maintenance monies covered the purchase of a lock box giving the Fire Department direct access to the building without having to visit a different location. Year-end detailed cleaning was done at the center including high dusting, all windows and blinds were cleaned as well as furniture and rug shampooing.

Additional end of year Office Supplies were purchased as well as Food and Related items and Program Services payments were made.

Exercise Program Update

Anne-Marie reviewed exercise programming. With the new budget, all of the exercise instructors will be contracted employees and be paid an individual flat rate. Seniors will pay for classes at the front desk. We will be honoring any “pre-purchased” exercise cards. Anne-Marie and Debbie based rates on comparisons of all classes and attendance on a weekly basis to be fair to all instructors. The price to seniors for exercise and yoga have been reduced to \$3.00 per class and line-dancing has been reduced to \$4.00. Anne-Marie negotiated rates with the instructors. The calendar for gym usage has been sent to the school department.

Senior Center BBQ and Summer Programs

The Senior Center BBQ will be held on August 9th and limited to 50 people. Debbie reached out to Lindley Food Service who will do the catering. Anne-Marie has hired a steel drum player, Toby Tobas, for the day. We are asking a \$5.00 donation fee for the event.

District Attorney Marian Ryan is visiting the center on Tuesday, July 25th to discuss the Opioid Epidemic and its impact on the family. Debbie will be traveling to the New Hampshire Lakes region theatre for a presentation of “South Pacific” with a luncheon at Hart’s Turkey Farm on July 20th. The Revere Beach trip to see the sandcastle competition with lunch at Marina at the Wharf on July 26th is looking to be a popular trip in conjunction with the Belmont Senior Center.

It has been suggested using the senior shuttle for additional, smaller trips to which Debbie has planned a Boston Duck Tour and a Salem, MA trip in August.

New Business

The Faire on Square will be held on Saturday, September 23rd. Debbie is investigating a give-away for seniors at the Faire.

The St. Vincent DePaul/St. Patrick’s Food Pantry has moved to Sacred Heart Church on Mount Auburn Street in East Watertown.

Anne-Marie submitted a grant to AARP for an Age Friendly community project with Watertown for All Ages. If granted, the project will organize listening sessions around Watertown to learn about residents views on aging.

Alice Wadden made a motion to adjourn and Dorothy-Jean & Esther Keaney seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Rae Grassia, Principal Account Clerk