

**COUNCIL ON AGING
P.O. BOX 243
Sterling, MA 01564**

The Council on Aging Board meeting was called to order at the Senior Center on Thursday, December 4, 2014 at 4:30 p.m.

1. Open Meeting

2. Roll Call

PRESENT

Anita Benware, Member
Bob Bloom, Associate
Sharon Bloom, Vice Chair
Irene Camerano, Member
Constance Cleary, Treasurer
Ken Day, Associate
Sue Doucette, Secretary
Barbara Foster, Chair
Karen Phillips, Director
Peter Watson, Member

ABSENT

Mary Higgins, Member
Debra MacLennan, Member
Ellen Sesia, Associate

3. Approve Minutes - Irene made a motion to accept the November 6, 2014 minutes; Connie seconded; all in favor.

4. Outreach Update - Year-to-date, Nickole has made 102 home visits. She also responded to 59 requests (43 which are recent), 158 walk-ins, handled numerous e-mails and phone contacts. Nickole is continuing handing out carbon monoxide detectors which approximately half have been distributed to seniors. The Rotary Club donated 12 turkeys for Thanksgiving and they were delivered as well.

5. Senior Center Building Committee Update - Karen informed the COA that to the best of her knowledge there is under \$10,000 remaining in the Senior Center fund. She asked the board if they still wanted this money to be available to the Building Committee as needed. After much discussion, the board decided that the remaining money should be kept for furnishing the new Center, as no one wants to ask the town for more money. Peter made a motion to set aside the money to furnish the new Center only; Connie seconded; all in favor.

6. Personnel Board Meeting Update -

a) Discussion and possible vote on sick leave for part-time employees - The following is from town counsel: Does the Law apply to municipalities and other public agencies? The new law will apply to all full and part-time employees of "public entities." However, with respect to "cities and towns", the law will only apply if duly adopted by the local legislative body and sufficient funds are appropriated.

This issue was discussed and the CoA Board supports this. Sharon made a motion that the funds should be made available for the part-time employees as long as they meet the conditions; Sue seconded; all in favor except for one (1) abstain. Barbara to send letter to Personnel Board.

b) Discussion on Personnel handbook - Still revising and a new handbook will be sent out.

7. Christmas Party on Sunday, Dec. 7th at 1:00 p.m. - Everyone should be here at the center to help out and also bake. Barbara and Karen will be at the center by 12 Noon.

8. Chinese Lunch Update - Fun and plenty of good food had by all in attendance. Thank you to everyone who helped out. A total of 50 people attended at \$4 per person. It was discussed that next year we will sell the tickets first, then order the appropriate amount of Chinese food.

9. MySeniorCenter Update - Attendees still need to remember to sign in. Through the end of November, 320 different seniors participated in 9,367 events. If you count those over 40, the numbers increase to 341 different people

and 9,912 events.

10. Topics for Future Meetings - Christmas Party; Building Committee; dining out for spring; report on budget; and personnel board meeting update.

11. Director's Report -

a) Van Report #1 - 1,071 total miles, 403 trips, transported 25 different people. **Van Report #2** - 403 total miles, 82 trips, transported 18 different people. No complaints.

b) Upcoming Events -

- December 4th - Movie at 1:00 p.m. Make sure you still believe in Santa.
- December 7th - Senior Center's Annual Christmas Party at 1:00 p.m.
- December 8th - "Health Issues Common in Seniors" talk by Dr. Corpuz at 12:30 p.m.
- December 11th - "Historical Society Talk" at 12:30 p.m.
- December 12th - Senior Breakfast at Chocksett School from 8:15 to 10:15 a.m. Appointments are required by calling the Senior Center at 978-422-3032.
- December 13th - Wachusett Area Rotary Breakfast at the Manor Restaurant in West Boylston. You must make a reservation by calling the Holden Senior Center at 508-210-5570.
- December 15th - "Staying Connected - Hearing Loss and Dementia" talk at 12:30 p.m. by Dr. Keith Darrow from the Hearing and Balance Centers of New England.
- December 18th - SHINE counselor will be available to answer your health insurance. Sign ups are required by calling the Senior Center at 978-422-3032.
- December 18th - Elder Keep Well Clinic from 12:00 Noon - 2:00 p.m.
- December 18th - **Date change** for the Book Club at 12:30 p.m. This month's selection is "A Dog Named Christmas" by Greg Kincaid.
- December 19th - **Date change** for Pancake Breakfast from 8 - 10:00 a.m. Fee is \$2.00 per person.
- January 1st and 2nd - Closed.

12. Signing of the Warrant - The Warrant was passed around for everyone to sign.

13. Next Meeting - The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, January 8, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.

14. Adjournment - The meeting was adjourned at 5:40 p.m. Sharon made a motion to adjourn; Irene seconded; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Doucette
Secretary