

**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, April 2, 2015 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  
Barbara Foster, Chair  
Mary Higgins, Member  
Debra MacLennan, Member  
Karen Phillips, Director  
Ellen Sesia, Associate  
Peter Watson, Member

**ABSENT**

Sue Doucette, Secretary

**3. Approve Minutes** - Connie made a motion to accept the March 5, 2015 minutes; Mary seconded; all in favor.

**4. Senior Center Building Committee Update**

**Update given by Bob Bloom and Karen Phillips.**

- Turowski2 reviewed the current plan.
- Some projects will be taken on by the Building Committee. For example; stumping, rough grading, and the purchase of new kitchen equipment will be done later, and the room divider will be put off as well.
- Turowski2 has completed a 60% estimate.
- Ads for bids will be placed in the *Telegram & Gazette* and the *Central Register* by April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Bids are due by May 13<sup>th</sup>
- Ground breaking by June 15<sup>th</sup>
- Any job done under \$10,000 does not have to go out for bid. However, prevailing wages (\$50.25/hour) still applies.

**5. Appoint Nominating Committee** - Nominating Committee was appointed. Sharon Bloom, Chair, Connie Cleary, and Mary Higgins. The committee will report their recommendations to the Board at the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. Elections will take place in June.

**6. Volunteer Appreciation** will be an "Afternoon Dessert Tea". Karen has submitted dates to Maureen Cranson.

**7. Leominster Luncheon on April 29<sup>th</sup>** at Appleseeds (Leominster Center for Technical Education). Departure by 10:45 a.m. Please sign up as soon as possible by calling the Senior Center at 978-422-3032.

**8. Discussion and Possible Vote on Van Usage** - There are some van riders who have made van reservations for pick up and have changed their minds - not notifying the center has become a serious issue. Karen contacted other centers and several scenarios were discussed. Karen will update the policy and present a new draft at the May 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. If accepted, a vote will be taken at that time. The approved Van Usage Policy will then be included in the by-laws. The new policy will be printed in the Monthly Newsletter for a couple of months before implementation. Karen will update policy and include it in by-laws. In the meantime, Karen will check with Town Administrator. After our vote, it will be published in the Newsletter. Peter made a motion to have Karen draft a policy; Deb seconded; all in favor.

**9. Discussion and Possible Vote on Downsizing** - Karen asked for permission to downsize some of the center's equipment that has outlived its usefulness. This will make our move to the new senior center a little easier. Irene made a

motion to give Karen permission; Mary seconded; all in favor.

**10. MySeniorCenter Update** - Since January 2015, 157 different seniors participated in 1,790 events. If you count those over 40, the numbers increase to 167 different people and 1,843 events.

**11. Topics for Future Meetings** - Town wide yard sale; nominations; van usage policy; luncheon results; MySeniorCenter Update; and Building Committee.

**12. Director's Report** -

a) **Van Report #1** - 1,021 total miles, transported 19 different people, for a total of 401 trips. **Van Report #2** - 385 total miles, transported 12 different people, for a total of 73 trips. Newest van driver is feeling more comfortable. The Board is very happy with her performance.

b) **Upcoming Events**

- April 2nd - Movie at 1:00 p.m. This is based on a real story of a professor who finds a puppy and develops an amazing bond. Free popcorn.
- April 9th - Edible Wild Plants talk by Jon Root at 1:00 p.m. Refreshments.
- April 13th - Protecting Your Nest Egg talk by Heather Keane at 12:30 p.m.
- April 16th - Elder Keep Well Clinic from 12:00 Noon - 2:00 p.m.
- April 20th - **Closed** for Patriot's Day.
- April 23rd - Book Club at 12:30 p.m. This month's selection is "The Art of Racing in the Rain" by Garth Stein.
- April 24<sup>th</sup> - FOSS pancake breakfast from 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. Fee is \$2.00 per person.
- April 27<sup>th</sup> - Living a Healthier Lifestyle talk by Sharon Nolli of Summit Elder Care at 12:30 p.m.
- April 30<sup>th</sup> - Springtime Jingo at 12:30 p.m. Refreshments and prizes.

c) **Office Coverage** - April 6, 8, 9, 14, 23, and 24. Sharon, Connie, Nickole, Mary and Barbara volunteered to cover.

**13. Chair's Update** - All topics covered in minutes.

**14. Signing of the Warrant** - The Warrant was passed around for everyone in attendance to sign.

**15. Next Meeting** - The next Board Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 7, 2015 at 4:30 p.m.

**16. Adjournment** - The meeting was adjourned at 5:35 p.m. Barbara made a motion to adjourn; Mary seconded; all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Bloom  
Secretary Pro Tem