

Council on Aging Minutes for May 8, 2019

Present: David Dann, JoAnn Bernhard, Susan Millinger, Linda Avis Scott. Guests: Janis Gray; Library Director Mary Anne Antonellis. **The meeting was called to order at 5:33 p.m. by David Dann.**

Minutes of March 13, 2019: It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously. ***Note: Lacking a quorum, there was no meeting in April.***

Business

Welcome to Janis, who is visiting the Council to see if she would like to become a member.

Dates proposed for next Newsletter: Editor Sally Fairfield will be asked to bring a draft to the regular meeting of June 12. COA will review the contents, making any suggestions for change that seem needed. Sally will make any changes suggested, and bring the final text to Linda for copying, with the goal of folding at a special meeting on June 19.

Review of current finances: In preparation for a visit from the Library Director with a request for funding assistance with her programs, Linda had prepared the Current Financials as of 4.10.19

Grant Balance: \$2, 665.52

Gift Expense Line: \$1,198 balance

Town Budget Expense Line: unused: \$130

Total May & June estimated expenses: \$625

-Foot Clinic: \$150

-Newsletter: \$175

-MedRide: \$300

Subtracting estimated May and June expenses of \$625 from the \$2665 still unspent, we have **approximately \$2,000 remaining of the grant.**

Fall Budget Discussion: At the next meeting, we should discuss the budget for fiscal year 2021.

Updates: Community Potluck: Next potluck, June 4. Later in this meeting there was discussion about whether we should try to advertise the potlucks to increase participation. Should we ask Becky whether we could use the Town sandwich board? Or should we focus on reminders in the newsletter and perhaps having posters around Town Hall? These questions were not resolved.

-MedRide: Has picked up significantly, with two new riders.

-Foot Clinic (third Wed): Still averaging 6-8 clients a session. Some come only every other month. David Dann remains concerned that the nurse changes so often; he would prefer more continuity.

-Exercise classes: Kathy Sward will be offering three classes on Tuesdays in May and June: two strength training for seniors (one intermediate and one beginning) and therapeutic yoga. Sasha continues to offer two yoga classes on Wednesday mornings, one gentle yoga and one a chair yoga class.

-Village Neighbors: David mentions an exciting new opportunity: a grant application has been submitted to Tufts Health Plan Foundation to support a needs assessment. VN is receiving on average 2-3 service

requests a week; about half of them are unexpected (unusual). It has about 45 members and about 60 volunteers.

COA Membership. Should we discuss with Melissa and David W whether they still want to continue as members? David plans to talk with each of them.

Discussion with Guest, Library Director Mary Anne Antonellis, about COA's possible contribution to her programs. A new Strength Training Class on Saturday mornings at 10 will be offered: for 8 weeks ending June 29.

Mary Anne's request for funding:

- Two family passes to Magic Wings, each with tickets for 16 adults, costing \$210 each: \$420
 - Pass for Museum of Fine Arts, Boston, with 70 coupons, each offering a reduced price for two adults: \$200
 - Fitness equipment, additional blocks, straps and weights: \$278.85
- Also, if money permits,
- 2 passes to Historic Deerfield, each admitting four people, each \$50: \$100
 - Pass to Mass MOCA, which is expensive but much requested: \$250

Total request: \$1648.95 A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously approved to fund the passes and equipment listed. Subsequently Tech Support Workshops were discussed, and a motion was made and seconded to amend the preceding motion to include four Tech Support Workshops at \$300. The motion carried.

Total grant to aid the Library programs: \$1948. 95

Discussion about the Tech Workshops and the museum passes followed. Hank's Tech Support workshops are so helpful that it was suggested that in the next fiscal year, COA sponsor a Tech Support session for people who don't have computers and might get them with broadband.

Information about the museum passes should be included in the newsletter; Mary Anne agrees to send Sally the relevant information. Mary Anne will be posting information on the passes and Tech Support workshops.

It was suggested that it might be helpful if the Newsletter provided a reminder of the equipment we possess. A question was asked about medical equipment that we might purchase to have available; questions of Town liability as well as storage and management problems explain why what we can have available is limited. The newsletter, however, can carry information about other places (e.g., the Fire Station, Amherst's Senior Center) which have medical equipment to which we can have access.

Proposed Agenda Items: In June we will be focusing on the Newsletter and next year's grant. Program ideas for the fall could also be discussed. Suggestions: dementia; medical marijuana.

Next Meeting: Regular June Meeting, the second Wednesday, June 12, 2019 at 5:30.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Millinger, secretary

