

Council on Aging Minutes for Special Meeting, May 29, 2019

Present: Linda Avis Scott, JoAnn Bernhard, Sally Fairfield, Andy Fairfield, Janis Gray, Melissa Makepeace O'Neil, David Wheeler, and Susan Millinger

The meeting was called to order at 5:39 p.m. by Linda Avis Scott.

Purpose: This special meeting was called by Linda after the grievous loss of our chair and dear colleague, David Dann. It was necessary to decide how the members of COA would take up the many COA tasks borne happily and extremely competently by David. The MedRide drivers had all been invited to provide their input into decisions affecting them; only JoAnn and Andy were able to attend. (Others who could not attend: Elaine Puleo, Leslie Luchonok, Susan Rice, and Bob Woo.

The meeting opened with the people in attendance being asked to share their COA relationships with David, for as Linda said, we needed, "to acknowledge our moving forward." It did not seem appropriate to include these personal reflections in these minutes.

Business: How do we go on without David?

Foot Clinic: This month, Linda called to remind people of their appointments. Susan Gomberg co-ordinated the clinic itself. She has volunteered to oversee the Clinic on a regular basis; as a retired nurse, she is an ideal candidate. Becky Torres has suggested, however, that the co-ordinator of the Foot Clinic needs to be a member of the Council. Susan will be asked if she would like to join COA.

The Foot Clinic is fully booked for June (the 15th) and July (the 19th).

MedRide: Linda did the intake on the new riders. Elaine Puleo is willing to co-ordinate MedRide. She will work with Linda, who will continue the role she has been playing. On contacting drivers: Andy and JoAnn commented that the policy of contacting the riders the night before, to remind them of the pick-up time and the identify of their driver, worked well.

Village Neighbors: VN has no official relationship with COA, but it would be helpful to know VN's plans and activities. Linda suggested Sally as a contact.

The Chair's Duties: A motion was made, seconded, and unanimously accepted that JoAnn and Linda share these duties.

Other Business:

COA Membership: David W suggested that we should start thinking of diversity of genders in encouraging people to consider joining the COA. Later, he commented that Sandy Dann would be an excellent member.

Newsletter Coverage: It was suggested that we notify the community through the newsletter of the new positions and changes of responsibility. Perhaps either the Town newsletter or the COA's *Geezette* might print photos of the MedRide drivers (as a group) and of Susan Gomberg.

Honoring David Dann: David W. proposed that the Senior Lounge be renamed the David Dann Conference Room. This suggestion was warmly received. Melissa said she would bring the suggestion to the Select Board.

Proposed Agenda Items: At the June meeting, we will be focusing on the Newsletter. Reminder: the plan is to review the newsletter on the 12th, and to hold a folding party on the 19th.

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

Respectfully submitted, Susan Millinger, secretary