

COA MINUTES FOR May 18, 2016
Draft minutes!

Present: David Dann, Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil, Linda Avis Scott, Marilyn Tibbetts, David Wheeler, Becky Torres, Sally Fairfield, Susan Gomberg

Meeting Called to order at 5:35 by David Dann

- The council reviewed the 3 sources of funding this current year. The largest grant is \$4000 from Department of Elder Affairs. To date \$2186 was spent, (\$1335 Med-ride, \$561 newsletter, \$250 foot clinic, \$39 open house). The grant period is July 1 to June 30. \$188 was spent from the annual town's appropriation of \$200. In the COA gift account \$995 is remaining.
- We discussed next year's state grant of \$4000 and decided the break out to be Med-ride \$2000, Foot clinic \$1000, Newsletter \$600 and Programming \$400. Becky indicated that there is quite a bit of flexibility in moving funds from one account to another if we are finding that we need to make an adjustment during the grant period.
- We discussed the two year funding opportunity for senior centers via LifePath. One possible idea we discussed was hiring a part-time outreach worker. A consciences of the council felt the timing was not right to hire a part time staff person, but outreach to our seniors was very important. We agreed to seek funding to explore and develop outreach effort in our community. David will write up a grant draft for our next meeting. We thought the first year funding could be to look at how best to reach our seniors. Ideas presented include a target survey and to explore the various communications vehicles for our senior. The second year of funding could be to establish programs based on the first years results. Our thrust would be to improve and maintain our outreach effort to more isolated seniors, A letter of intent is due June 13.
- The council thanked the Renovations subcommittee for their hard work regarding the senior lounge's renovations. The subcommittee is no longer necessary.
- The council approved the use of \$250 of COA funds to continue the Wednesday morning Yoga classes for June, 4 approved.
- Elaine Puleo sent the council an email seeking input on elder healthcare needs in rural communities. Both Elaine and April Stein are sitting members of the Community Benefits Advisory Council of Baystate Franklin Medical Center that has funding for community health improvement programs in Franklin County. It was decided to invite them along with Ken Rotondi to our June COA meeting for a discussion on elder health care needs. We also plan to invite our foot care clinic nurse, Kate Clayton-Jones.
- Motion to approve April's minutes was passed, 3 approved.
- The council reviewed the upcoming newsletter. Sally, newsletter editor will make the final changes and send to Linda to copy. A newsletter

folding party is planned for Wednesday May 25 at 5:30pm.

- May 26 is the next Aging in Place Task Force meeting. The focus will be discussion on the village to village network model.
- Sally Fairfield agreed to host the June 11th discussion Staying True to Ourselves...
- COA will invite the Vinskeys to our June meeting to discuss the coffee hour's future.
- Town meeting approved the warrant article that expanded the COA from 5-7 members. Susan Gomberg indicated she would be interested in joining. The up-coming newsletter will announce the openings and the council will discuss the opening at their June meeting.
- Adjourned 7:05pm

Respectfully submitted, David C. Dann