

COA MINUTES FOR June 8, 2016

Present: David Dann, Melissa Makepeace-O'Neil, Linda Avis Scott, David Wheeler, Jean Footit, Sally Fairfield, Carol Groman

Meeting Called to order at 5:35 by David Dann

- The COA welcomed Jean Footit to our meeting. She is interested in joining the COA.
- May 11 meeting minutes approved 4-0
- The council discussed the upcoming letter of intent to LifePath to fund an intense survey. The survey would be used to collect data from our seniors on what kind of programming and needs exists in our community. It was agreed that any use of grant funds at this time for an outreach worker was premature. David will attend an upcoming technical assistance program at LifePath for all potential grantees and report back to the COA. The grant cycle is two years and our proposal is due July 11.
- We agreed 4-0 that next year's state grant of \$4000 to be spent this way: Med-ride \$2000, Foot clinic \$1000, Newsletter \$600 and Programming \$400. As previous noted-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 (July 1 to June 30).
- The council thanked the Renovations subcommittee for their hard work regarding the senior lounge's renovations. The subcommittee is no longer necessary.
- Elaine Puleo came to speak to the council regarding 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. Carol Groman, Administrative Assistant to Foot Care by Nurses participated in the discussion. Currently the Advisory Council is seeking input from the community. Several focus groups in our area will be held. David Wheeler and Sally Fairfield will attend one in Shelburne and David Dann will attend the one in Orange. We will try and give a voice for rural community health care needs for seniors.
- Sally Fairfield agreed to host the June 11th discussion Staying True to Ourselves...
- Mike Vinskey came to our meeting to discuss the coffee hour's future. He said hardly anyone comes and that he and Patty are away for at least two months during the year. His recommendation is to discontinue the coffee hour. The

council agreed and would announce such changes in our next newsletter.

- COA fund raising opportunity was discussed at the SAC. We will continue this discussion at our next meeting.
- Also discussed and to be continued is a gap in transportation services for wheelchair/walker residents.

Adjourned 7:05pm

Respectfully submitted, David C. Dann