

**COUNCIL ON AGING  
WALPOLE, MASSACHUSETTS**

**MAY 23, 2019**

*Approved  
6/27/19*

A regular meeting of the Council on Aging was held on Thursday, May 23, 2019, in Room 206 of the Walpole Co-Operative Bank South Street Center at 1:30 p.m.

The following members were present:

Rich McCarthy, Chairperson, Regular Member  
Josette Burke, Vice-Chairperson, Regular Member  
Linda Winslow, Secretary/Clerk, Regular Member  
Dolores Efthim, Regular Member  
Dorothea Hanes, Regular Member  
Mary Jones, Regular Member  
Terry Lehrman, Regular Member  
Rosanne Rockwell, Regular Member  
Dorothy Smith, Associate Member

The following members were absent:

Jim Pellegrine, Treasurer  
Janet Fasanello, Associate Member

The following staff members were present:

Kerri McManama, Director  
Laurel St. Pierre, Outreach Worker

The meeting was called to order by Rich McCarthy at 1:30 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance** – The first order of business was the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Secretary's Report** – A correction was made to the minutes of April 25, 2019 under Old Business regarding the defibrillator. Josette Burked explained that, although there is a defibrillator in the building, classes in training for its operation are needed. Kerri McManama will follow up on it. A motion was made by Josette to accept the report as amended. The motion was seconded by Terri Lehrman and passed (8-0-0).

**Treasurer's Report** – Although Jim Pellegrine, Treasurer, was absent, copies of his report were distributed. Kerri McManama explained that they are trying to get the accounts down to 0 before the end of the fiscal year – in other words, “use it or lose it.” The Friends of the COA pays for some events. Kerri explained that the Building Fund doesn't actually have a negative balance. It is actually at a 0 balance. The money was transferred to pay for benches outside, patio furniture, etc. Dorothea Hanes inquired about the Creative Corner account and what happened to the cookbook for which the money was to be used. Kerri explained that the recipes have been printed but need to be put into software. Nothing is happening to the \$500 right now. A motion was made by Josette Burke to accept the treasurer's report. The motion was seconded and approved (8-0-0).

**Outreach Worker's Report** – Laurel St. Pierre's report was put on the screen, aided by Kerri. Laurel explained that the total monthly outreach was 469 in April. Food Assistance was highest at 243. Out of towners that checked in totaled 150. Foot Care was up to 38 clients, Laurel is looking into what legal services people are using – it is valuable information, More people are being provided with medical rides (33). Medicare and Medicaid are up, mostly due to baby boomers. She pointed out that condos are being built nearby and is expected to lead to growth at the Center. Laurel said she is still preparing welcoming packets for newcomers. Total client outreach is 4066, which is up from 4050 last year.

**Director's Report – Transportation-** Kerri McManama reported that there is definitely more transportation taking place. A third driver is still needed. She and Jim, one of the drivers, attended a meeting regarding a new van and are looking into a grant. **Senior Center Status** – Attendance continues to go up. There is growth in fitness classes. Data is improving. **Recent Events** – In honor of the COA's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, there was an Anniversary Celebration Dance, called “Imagine,” on Saturday, May 4, 2019. It was attended by 90 seniors and was a beautiful event. The Friends paid for most of it. Roche Bros. provided food. It was a beautiful event. The celebration continued on Friday, May 10, 2019, with Beatles Bingo. It was attended by nearly 70 people. **Upcoming Events** – The list of people receiving newsletters has grown. Starting in June people will be able to get copies via email. People getting it on email will be receiving news earlier than those receiving thru regular mail. People will have to choose one way or the other, not both. Update from the Massachusetts Council on Aging is that the Senate passed everything related to elder care and is fully funded. Kerri also announced that Linda Gagnon is no longer working at the Center. There is an advertisement out for an assistant director. A gift cart will be offered on Friday, May 31, 2019, from 10:00 a.m. to noon. It will be attended by Laurel and is mainly for those who find it difficult to go to stores to get gifts and/or cards that they want for their friends and relatives. Members of the Council are asked to bring in gifts and cards for this purpose.

**Old Business** – None.

**New Business** – Terry Lehrman requested a list of trips for those who are handicapped. Kerri said she would follow up on that.

Rich McCarthy brought up the topic of whether or not the Council wanted to meet in July and/or August. A motion was made by Rosanne Rockwell to not meet in July and August. The motion was seconded by Josette Burke and passed (8-0-0).

Dorothea Hanes handed in her resignation as a member of the Council on Aging as of today as she is moving.

On behalf of the Board, Rich McCarthy commented on the good work being done by Kerri and Laurel.. The dance was wonderful, and 77 people stayed until the end at 10:00 p.m. More than 70 people attended the Beatles Bingo. It was free due to donations. A suggestion was made by Linda Winslow to have Musical Bingo some time. It was further suggested to try to find funds for it. Kerri's daughter Caroline helped on Walpole Day and at Bingo and was given a card of thanks.

Mary Jones rode in a vintage car on Walpole Day representing the Council on Aging. She rode in a 1969 red Corvette and was able to wave to those watching the parade.

A motion was made and seconded to adjourn at 2:20 p.m. The motion passed (8-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Emily Conrad, Secretary