

COUNCIL ON AGING

WALPOLE, MASSACHUSETTS

MAY 23, 2013

A regular meeting of the Council on Aging was held on May 23, 2013, in the Aurelia M. Newell (Senior) Center.

The following members were present:

Dolores Efthim, Chairperson, Regular Member
Lloyd Smith, Vice Chairperson, Regular Member
Jim Pellegrine, Treasurer, Regular Member
Mary Serena, Secretary, Regular Member
Joanne Damish, Regular Member
Terry Lehrman, Regular Member
Robert Moody, Regular Member
Edith Noyes, Regular Member
Florence Sundquist, Regular Member
David Sullivan, Regular Member
Kristin Smith, Regular Member
Ann Murphy, Associate Member

The following staff members were present:

Courtney Riley, Director
Conchita Geyer, Outreach Worker
Susanne Murphy, Senior Clerk

The following members were absent:

Barbara Coates, Regular Member
Mary Dugdale, Regular Member
Mary Rich, Regular Member
Catherine Stanton, Regular Member

The following guests were present: Arthur Aho, Peg Blakely, Tom Coughlin, Cheryl Hall (Florence Sundquist's daughter), Doris Foley, Mary Jones, Fran Kyne, Maryfrances Kyne Broderick (Fran Kyne's daughter), McKeen Kessel, and Joe Penza

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 p.m. by the chairperson, Dolores Efthim. As the agenda now points out the number of minutes allowed for each category, Dolores explained that the Council is trying to be more efficient yet flexible. Each member received a packet of information, including the director's report, a draft of the newsletter for June, and invitations to attend National Senior Health & Fitness Day on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, 10:11 – 12:00 at the Center and a presentation on downsizing on June 14.

Secretary's Report

A motion was made and seconded to accept the secretary's report (with a minor correction). The motion passed (11-0-0).

Treasurer's Report

Copies of the treasurer's report were distributed. He reviewed each account, none of which showed any major changes. In answer to a question about the Formula Grant, Courtney replied that it pays for certain expenses and some salaries. A motion was made by Lloyd Smith to approve the treasurer's report. It was seconded by Mary Serena and passed (11-0-0).

Director's Report

Courtney Riley read her report. Volunteers were treated to a luncheon on May 14, which was paid by the Friends of Walpole Elders. The Council participated in the parade on Walpole Day on May 18 as well as having a table in the field along with many others promoting their activities. A Health Fair will be held at the Center on May 29. One of the senior vans will be available to pick up seniors so they can attend the Concerts on the Common this summer. Courtney appreciates all feedback and suggestions. Dave Sullivan suggested a letter be written to The Walpole Times thanking the employees for their coverage of Walpole Day.

Outreach Worker's Report

Conchita Geyer read her report. She attended a meeting of outreach workers at Briarwood Health Care and Rehabilitation Center in Needham and was very well impressed with the facility. She has received various phone calls from elders with problems. Conchita puts them in touch with people or organizations that, hopefully, can help them. She also has been visiting elders in their homes or in their nursing homes.

Senior Center Status

David Sullivan reported that it is status quo, but various parts of town government are showing more interest in the project than formerly. Dolores Efthim stated that she wrote a letter to The Walpole Times and The Hometown Weekly stating that the Council on Aging had voted unanimously in favor of the proposed new senior center.

Van Report

Courtney Riley reported that, during April a total of 335 passengers were carried, the vans traveled a total of 1174 miles, and used a total of 174 gallons of gas.

Senior Citizens Club

Mary Serena reported that, at the final meeting of the season, there will be a pizza party, including games and the telling of jokes.

Veterans Group

Florence Sundquist reported that 26 people attended the meeting held on May 9. The speaker was Mr. Duke, a representative from Rolls Royce, which is located on Norfolk Street in Walpole. She is hopeful someone will take over planning the programs as she is resigning. On Monday, May 27, at 11:00 a.m. there will be an observance at Veterans Park to celebrate the memory of Everett (Rocky) Rockwood. Planes will fly over the area in his honor, followed by lunch at the VFW.

HESSCO

Jim Pellegrine reported changes in personnel in the Adult Day Care Program in Franklin. He suggested that people call HESSCO if they have health issues. A fundraiser will be held at Four Points in Norwood on June 9 with dinner followed by a musical program, "Simply Sinatra."

Old Business

Dolores Efthim was asked by Mary Murphy to mention some of her concerns, which were as follows: (1) Provide a table for people to work on puzzles. (2) More parking spaces (A statement was made that the Council has no control over that), (3) Dolores forgot what the third point was.

New Business

Courtney spoke about the addition that appeared at the bottom of the agenda. She explained that a meeting was held on what the Board should be doing. The meeting was led by Emmett Schmarsow, Program Manager for Councils on Aging and Senior Centers at the Executive Office of Elder Affairs. Five members of the Board attended the meeting. All Council on Aging boards should be focusing on future projects (two or three in the short term and one larger one). A form was prepared for members to identify their interests and their expertise. Members were asked to fill out the forms and return them within a week. Susanne asked how the public might get involved. Dolores stated that two people have already shown interest in helping with the senior center. She said she is open to suggestions.

There was some discussion regarding people being on the Board in the future. It was decided that people should attend at least two meetings before applying for membership. It was pointed out by Jim and Lloyd that the Council on Aging can make recommendations but that the Board of Selectmen makes the ultimate decision. A motion was made by Jim Pellegrine that, if anyone is interested in being a member of the Board, that person should be a guest at two meetings and they should tell the Council that they're here. The motion was seconded and passed (11-0-0).

Florence Sundquist was thanked for all she has done for the veterans and for getting men to the Center. Florence stated that there is a Veterans Conference for Women at UMASS on

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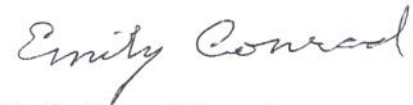
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Saturday, June 15. There is also a meeting of the Governors Advisory Committee on Women Veterans at Lombardo's on October 26, 2013.

The meeting adjourned at 2:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Emily Conrad".

Emily Conrad, Secretary