

EDGARTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING
January 18, 2018

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Co-chair Jay Sigler. Also present were Rosemary Cunningham, Olga Church, Jay Sigler, Heidi Boyd, Marvene O'Rourke, and Administrator Paul Mohair. Kevin Ryan was not present.

Minutes Copies of proposed minutes from the December 21, 2017, meeting were distributed and read. Olga moved and Rosemary seconded that the minutes be approved, which they were unanimously.

Friends of ECOA Report Barbara Phillips was present and reported on our Friends. Barbara mentioned the recent meeting Paul had arranged between herself and Janice Belisle from the Friends, our outreach department, Matt Poole, head of the health department, Alex Schaeffer, the fire chief, Brendon Cooney, an EMT, and Paul, himself. Barbara said this will go a long way to reaching elders that we might otherwise not know and may be in need of support. The EMTs are creating a program to go into the homes of elders recently released from the hospital to do a "wellness check" and determine if any other services might be needed. Paul said we have another follow up group meeting scheduled for next month. There was discussion. Hopefully, these meetings will take place regularly. Barbara then left this meeting.

Budget Paul did not have a year-to-date financial report, but distributed the proposed department fiscal year budget for 2019- the same he presented to the town Financial Advisory Committee last night, which he and Kevin attended. Fin Com was supportive and had no questions. The budget proposes small increases for utilities and MySeniorCenter support and IT. Paul said that we are 55% through our fiscal year, and have spent 52% of our budget. Olga asked if our increased program will increase our budget or need for personnel. Wendy may need an assistant for programming. There was discussion about Anchors personnel, grants, and the future need to increase staff.

Administrator's Report Paul referenced the annual report. Everyone had read it and had no questions. Paul said he was appointed by the town administrator to the five person panel which will select the new police chief. There was discussion. The Center for Living has vacated the Anchors. It will no longer be listed as an agenda item for the monthly Board meetings. There was general discussion about the Center 4 Living.

Director of Senior Services Report Wendy entered the meeting. She described yesterday, which was the first Wednesday of new programming since the C4L moved. We had new people come for the two tai chi classes; afterwards, there was a chair yoga class which was very well attended, even with the bad weather. All went very well. She also described the recent group tour of the MV Gazette building which everyone enjoyed. Wendy listed some of February's events, including a movie, Coffee With a Cop, an artists club, and a stress management class. She is using our survey results for planning suggestions. We will keep the surveys circulating year-round for our seniors to complete. Wendy and the Board discussed support for planning, events, activities- either more staff or more volunteers. Olga suggested a travel club, having people do presentations about where they have visited, showing pictures, and discussion. Our monthly bowling was discussed. Olga suggested a trip to a casino.

Outreach Report Victoria then entered the room. In light of our recent snow storm she mentioned our “storm call list” and how it has been updated to include new names of those who may be home bound, compromised, or simply indicated they would like a wellness call when appropriate. We share their names with the police and fire departments. There was discussion.

Victoria also talked about our recent meeting with the police, fire department, EMTs, board of health, and Friends. Victoria distributed our outreach statistics from the last calendar year, which were also handed out at the referenced meeting. Again, we talked about how many seniors actually live in Edgartown as opposed to those who appear on the street list. We reviewed Meris’ progress calling our seniors on the street list. Eric from the library had called with a referral about a compromised and possibly homeless senior. There was general discussion. Victoria talked about her participation in various housing projects, including one in Vineyard Haven. Victoria then left the room.

New Business There was no new business.

The next meeting is February 15, 2018.

Upon motion by Olga, seconded by Rosemary, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 am.