

EDGARTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING
April 27, 2018

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Chair Kevin Ryan. Also present were Co-chair Jay Sigler, Olga Church, Rosemary Cunningham, Heidi Boyd, Marvene O'Rourke, and Administrator Paul Mohair.

Minutes Copies of proposed minutes from the March 15, 2018, meeting were distributed and read. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Budget Paul distributed the budget report of year to date expenses as of April 26th. He noted we are about 85% way through the fiscal year with about 70% of the budget expended. There is a small surplus Paul will spend on improvements to the Anchors building. Paul said he had about a \$1,900 balance in our state formula grant that also must be spent by the end of June. There was discussion and no further questions.

Friends of ECOA Report Janice Belisle, the Friends' treasurer, was present to give a report. Janice said she had nothing much new to report from the Friends. There was discussion about moving monthly meetings to the third Friday of every month. Janice said the Friends hired a CPA to help with their taxes. The Friends will have their annual meeting soon, probably in June, and will let Paul know the date. They are looking into changing and updating their by-laws. The Friends' outreach program will continue collaborating with the Anchors and the town EMTS and fire departments. The EMTS are conducting a falls prevention program at the Anchors next month at a Friday lunch. Paul thanked Janice and the Friends for supporting, as always, our trips, classes, and events. Janice stayed for some of the meeting.

Administrator's Report Paul reported on the town meeting. Our COA's proposed budget was approved and all town employees got a 2% raise as of July first. Also, the three warrant articles supporting First Stop, Healthy Aging MV, and CORE were approved. Rosemary and Heidi assisted by handing out information pamphlets to those attending the meeting. Hopefully, all remaining towns will also pass the articles. Paul said he has some improvements to the building planned to be completed by the end of June (the end of our fiscal year), including a new door by the kitchen, some stripping, sanding, and painting to the exterior. Paul has a good relationship with the new manager of the Kelley House. Our common parking lot/driveway was to be resurfaced, but the Kelley house could not get the required materials when all the ferries fell into disrepair. Hopefully, it will be repaired next month.

The selectmen and the new chief of police are coming to lunch today. Our lunch is sold out (with a waiting list). There was no more discussion, and Wendy came in for her report.

Director of Senior Services Report Wendy and Victoria entered the meeting. They presented Kevin and Olga with gifts and cards commemorating, recognizing, and thanking them for their years of dedicated service to the Anchors, its seniors, and staff. There was discussion about Kevin's and Olga's future plans. Wendy mentioned upcoming events and programs. Mondays, we now have an art club in the morning and our knitters in the evening. Both are popular and successful. Wendy said free Mondays and Wednesdays allow her to do more programming that would otherwise have to be combined with lunch, e.g., the Jim Thomas Spiritual Choir, so that now such programs can stand alone on Monday or Wednesday, with less uncomfortable crowding and lunch tables. Wendy is planning author's talks, artist video visits, and others during these weekdays.

We are also starting a travel club. Our next meeting will feature a couple's trip to Cuba and pictures they had taken. We recently featured the Grand Canyon.

We are having more movies and Ipad/Iphone classes and instruction. Wendy has scheduled a handwriting expert to analyze participating seniors' handwriting and then discuss the results.

Olga asked about museum trips and conversations. Wendy said it is in the works, the museum would not do it until after the winter season.

The Board thanked Wendy and she left the meeting.

Outreach Report Victoria then entered the room. She discussed the collaborative outreach program we initiated with the Fire/EMT departments, police, and Friends. One component is visiting homes of seniors recently released from the hospital, ensuring a safe home environment. Olga asked about emergency calls by seniors at night and what may be the alternatives, including non-emergency numbers. Victoria said she would research and work on such situations. There was discussion, including ways to include the Brazilian community and the demand for housing. Paul mentioned the high amount of outreach the Anchors has provided this year. He will bring numbers to the next meeting. He also said he and Victoria continue to work on getting an on-island Protective Services case worker on the island. There was discussion. Victoria talked about her attempts to have the Arbor Inn in Edgartown converted to senior housing. The Board thanked Victoria for her good work and she left the meeting.

New Board Officers and Membership Olga and Kevin confirmed they are stepping down and will no longer serve on our Board. Paul will publish notices in local newspapers seeking new members. Paul said a new Chair and Co-chair should be chosen by the Board at next month's meeting and that, also, we will need a resolution at that time authorizing new signatories on our department warrants authorizing payments of invoices and payroll. Paul suggested Heidi as the most obvious and accessible candidate. Kevin and Olga both reflected and remarked upon their tenures on the Board, including the success of finding the Center for Living its own home and facility. Everyone thanked and wished Olga and Kevin the best. They shall be greatly missed.

New Business Paul said he would like to move our regular meeting day to the third Friday of each month to avoid competing with exercise classes in the other room. All agreed and approved this move. The next meeting shall be Friday, May 18th.

There being no more business, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 9:40 am.