

**EDGARTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING
June 22, 2017**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by President Kevin Ryan. Also present were Jay Sigler, Heidi Boyd, and Administrator Paul Mohair. Olga had advised she would be unable to attend. Also present was Rosemary Cunningham, who had indicated an interest in joining our Board.

Minutes Copies of proposed minutes from the May 25, 2017, meeting were distributed and read. There was brief discussion. Upon motion by Jay, seconded by Heidi, the minutes were adopted unanimously.

Budget Paul distributed copies of the budget report with expenses as of June 19th. Paul observed the fiscal year ends next week, June 30th. He called attention to the equipment maintenance line item which is overspent by \$604. The deficit is due to an unforeseen expense of \$1,700 for the MySeniorCenter service this year. Apparently the County had already paid this and is seeking reimbursement from the town. Paul was unaware of this until last week when he received an email and invoice from the town administrator and the county in this regard. Because we have a budget surplus Paul agreed to pay this out of equipment maintenance. There was general discussion. Paul projects spending all the money in our budget for the fiscal year without over spending.

New Officer Nominating Committee; Members' Terms Kevin advised he, Jay, and Heidi shall continue of the Board in their present capacities. As stated above, Rosemary Cunningham, an Edgartown resident was in the room at Paul's invitation. Rosemary had indicated an interest in joining the Board, filling the vacancy left by Glenn. Rosemary said she came to the island from New Jersey where she had been a school principal in both elementary and high schools. She spoke about the intergenerational programs in which she had participated there. She had read about the opening in the newspaper's town column and felt encouraged when she called Paul. The Board welcomed her and hoped she is interested in joining.

Friends of ECOA Report Janice Belisle from our Friends was present and reported they had recently had their annual meeting. Barbara Phillips and Madeline Fisher shall remain Co-chairs. Janice said they had reviewed their by-laws with the intention to amend them where appropriate. She also said the by-laws were not yet in a digital format (only paper, hard-copy) and they intended to create computer generated copies. There was discussion about the Friends by-laws. The Friends will do another appeal letter. Paul said Wendy and he attended the last Friends meeting and had announced the board opening. Jay reiterated the contributions the Friends make and have been making over the years that make many programs possible. Janice mentioned the Friends were still thinking about expanding our big room. There was discussion. The Board thanked Janice and the Friends, and she then left the room.

Administrator's Report Paul reminded the Board that Victoria's outreach position will increase from 35 hours per week to 40 on July 1st, and that she will "retire" from the custodian job she had here for almost 20 years. Paul had advertised for the custodian position to which only Diane, our

cook, responded so that Diane will be our new custodian, effective July first.

Paul talked about getting the Daggett Street fence repaired/replaced, and that he will apply to the town Historic District Commission for permission to do that. There was discussion. Kevin suggested removing the fence and planting a hedgerow in its place. Jay agreed this was a good idea. Paul said he would pursue this idea; determine if we can remove the fence without the town's approval.

Paul said our state grant funded part-time outreach worker has one more week to work.

Otherwise, the department is running well, programs are well attended, and the Anchors remains busy.

Director of Senior Services Report Wendy entered the meeting. Wendy presented Jay with a birthday card and everyone sang "Happy Birthday." Jay blew out the candle on a muffin. Wendy said the next newsletter will be a "double issue" with events for July and August. Wendy said she had started bridge and added another bridge game for Thursdays. Both Thursday and Friday bridge games are very popular. Adele Dreyer is playing piano twice a month for half an hour before Friday lunches. Jay is leading our well-attended conversation group which meets twice a month. Our gender-specific book groups are no longer gender-specific, but have combined to create one Anchors book group of both sexes. The Vineyard Sound will perform here this summer. Wendy has a few different artists showing their work each month. We will also be doing a joint iPad training program in collaboration with the library at the library. Susan Klein will do a "Write Your Own Obituary" workshop this summer at the Anchors, which has been very popular in the past.

In August, we will have "ice cream sundae and karaoke," at which the town high school Minnesingers will sing/perform with instrumental tracks they have selected. There was discussion about the town Fourth of July parade.

There was more discussion about the Center for Living leaving the building and the programming opportunities that will thereafter open up. Wendy mentioned many ideas for clubs, support groups, and other activities and events.

The advantages of publishing our newsletter for two months at a time were discussed.

Wendy reminded the Board our newsletter contains our lunch menus for the month(s) and is always accessible on line.

There was more discussion about the Center for Living departure, when that will happen, and the effect it will have on our programming.

Wendy then left the meeting.

Outreach Report Emily Serge, our grant-funded, part-time outreach worker, who is leaving the end of the month, entered the meeting. She discussed some of her outreach cases, including advocacy and visits to home-bound seniors. Victoria then entered the meeting. She said she's seen an increase in demand for services to families with members suffering from memory loss. She related a couple cases with details of the risks and dangers associated with this health issue. Victoria talked about some of the support services we are offering and also what the Center for Living is doing to address the increase in need; and that we are collaborating with the Center to provide these services.

Paul asked Victoria for a progress report on our Safe Seniors program that replaced the old Gatekeepers. The written outreach material was shown to the Board. Victoria advised of the outreach material, training, and Power Point presentation she and Center for Living staff are preparing for the COAs to use for each COA implementing Safe Seniors. Training was discussed by the Board. Victoria advised we are also having "Safe Seniors Member" stickers created for participating businesses and homes of those who may have a compromised senior in the family. Emily and Victoria then left the meeting.

Center for Living Report Paul said the renovations on the VNA building may be completed in a few months. There was discussion.

There was more general discussion about the history of the Anchors, Board members, and personnel. Kevin said he may be relocating, moving out of Edgartown in November, and would step down from the Board at that time.

New Business Kevin welcomed Rosemary, thanked her for coming. There was no new business.

The next meeting is September 21st.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 am.