

EDGARTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING
September 21, 2017

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:25 am by Co-Chair Jay Sigler. Also present were Heidi Boyd, Rosemary Cunningham, and Administrator Paul Mohair. Kevin and Olga had advised they would be unable to attend. Also present were Marvene O'Rourke, who had indicated an interest in joining our Board; and Leslie Clapp from the Center for Living, and Barbara Phillips from the Anchors' Friends.

Minutes Copies of proposed minutes from the June 22, 2017, meeting were distributed and read. There was brief discussion. Upon motion by Jay, seconded by Heidi, the minutes were adopted unanimously.

New Board Member New member Rosemary Cunningham was welcomed. Rosemary was sworn in by the Town clerk and approved by the Board of Selectmen on July 10, 2017. Rosemary's term expires April 30, 2020. Paul suggested Leslie give her report out of order so that she may attend a meeting elsewhere.

Center for Living Report Leslie reported that the new Center for Living building in Vineyard Haven is on track to be finished in October. She believes the transition will take a couple of months thereafter to be complete. There was discussion. Leslie described the design, interior, and landscaping of the property. Meals and the kitchen were also discussed. Leslie advised of the program's services. Responding to Jay, Leslie answered that they will be in the new building by January 1st. Fund raising was discussed. The Board congratulated Leslie on her hard work and achievement. Leslie then left the meeting.

Friends of ECOA Report Barbara Phillips from our Friends was present. Paul introduced Barbara to Rosemary and Marvene. Barbara said the Friends had not met over the summer, but would be meeting next week. She explained that the Friends had, at Paul's request, received a \$5,000 grant from the Vision Fellowship which was passed through the Friends to the town for the Anchors to employ a part-time outreach worker. Barbara explained a little about the Friends to Marvene. There was discussion. Barbara had nothing more to report and then left the meeting.

Budget Paul distributed copies of the budget report with expenses as of September 12th. We are about 20% through our fiscal year and have spent 16% of our budget. Paul said both electric and telephone rates went up since this budget was approved so that we may exceed budgeted amounts by the end of the year. There was some discussion.

Administrator's Report Paul welcomed Rosemary to the Board. Paul said he would like to proceed with removing our Daggett Street fence and replacing it with a hedge. Paul received a proposal from our landscaper for \$4,000 to do the job. There was discussion. The Board agreed to use the money from our building maintenance line item to go forward and pay for the hedge. Paul will advise our landscaper to begin. Paul said the next annual MCOA conference is October 18th, through October 20th, so the next Board meeting will be scheduled for the fourth Thursday in October, or October 26th. Wendy, Victoria, and Paul will be going, though Paul and Wendy shall return in time to put on the Friday

lunch.

Paul explained he got a \$5,000 grant from the island Vision Fellowship to hire a part-time outreach worker to visit the homes of Edgartown seniors who are unknown to the Anchors and Anchors staff. We will interview and should have the new worker by the end of October. There was discussion. Rosemary asked about the qualifications. Paul responded with the requirements as set forth in the job description. Paul explained the Vision Fellowship grant. There was also some discussion about the annual State formula grant.

Paul said the Anchors had been very busy this summer.

Marvene asked about the Edgartown senior population. Paul said Oak Bluffs has the largest population with Edgartown second, with about 1,200 seniors. Jay observed that, compared to the other island COAs, the Anchors does more by way of outreach and event planning and programs.

Director of Senior Services Report Wendy entered the meeting. She discussed the expansion of programming after the Center 4 Living relocates, possibly January first. Wendy said we would be scheduling our busy programming so that large crowds of people are not crammed into the building at the same time. Wendy has a long list of new ideas for programming, including ones given by Jay and his conversation group. There was discussion. The date of C4L's departure was discussed. Wendy will be doing card making, health screening, pizza and music, a book talk, piano preludes with Adele before lunch, bridge, and the usual strength training and yoga. Wendy and Paul will be away for a few days next week, but have everything covered. We are doing more programming in collaboration with the library. Wendy then left the meeting.

Outreach Report Victoria then entered the meeting. She explained what she does as the outreach worker, including case management. In one recent case, she assisted a man who came in with his wife who had dementia. Victoria was able to get Elder Services to provide some in-home support and care giving services for the couple. She also recommended the family go to the Memory Café and attend the C4L Supportive Day Program; she suggested the island caregiver support group for the husband.

Victoria related her efforts to have the Edgartown Arbor Inn property converted to affordable senior housing. There was discussion regarding how this could happen. Victoria said it might house twelve to twenty-four seniors, depending upon how the property is developed. Jay mentioned Victoria's many other outreach efforts.

Marvene observed how advantageous it is to have the memory support group at Featherstone, which is attractive, nonthreatening, and very inviting. Paul said the memory support group is very popular.

New Business There being no new business the meeting was adjourned at 9:35 am.