

**EDGARTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING
October 26, 2017**

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Chair Kevin Ryan. Also present were, Rosemary Cunningham, Olga Church, Jay Sigler, and Administrator Paul Mohair. Heidi had advised she would be unable to attend. Also present were Marvene O'Rourke, who had indicated an interest in joining our Board; and Madeline Fisher from the Anchors' Friends.

Minutes Copies of proposed minutes from the September 21, 2017, meeting were distributed and read. There was brief discussion. Upon motion by Rosemary, seconded by Kevin, the minutes were adopted unanimously.

Budget Paul distributed copies of the budget report with expenses as of October 25th. There was discussion, including the \$4,000 cost of our new Daggett Street hedges. There was discussion. Paul said we're still under spent. Jay asked about the asset acquisition line item. Paul said he intended to purchase office equipment but has not as of yet. Madeline Fisher of our Friends entered the meeting. Paul asked that we take Madeline out of order so that she may give the Friends' report. The Board agreed.

Friends of ECOA Report Paul introduced Madeline to those who may not have met her. Madeline said there was not much new with our Friends. She said they met last week. Paul reviewed the Friends' annual donations for our programming and events. Madeline said the Friends did discuss an annual one-time \$11,000 donation for Wendy's programming and events fund, rather than having the Friends write checks for each expense. It would be less bookkeeping for the Friends. Olga observed that with the Center for Living relocating there will be more programming and more programming expenses. There was more discussion about the date of the C4L departure and the impact it will have on Anchors programming. Madeline then concluded her report.

New Board Member Marvene O'Rourke would like to become a Board member. She attended last month's meeting. Upon motion by Kevin, seconded by Olga, the Board unanimously resolved that Marvene be approved as a Board member. Paul said he will so notify the Town Administrator and Clerk, so that Marvene may be sworn in as our newest Board member.

Administrator's Report Paul described the annual MCOA conference he, Victoria, and Wendy attended last week in Danvers. Paul described some of the workshops, events, and the governor's presentation to an all attendees luncheon. It was a worthwhile conference to attend. There was discussion.

Paul advised he had hired Meris Keating, who is studying to get her masters in gerontology, as our part-time outreach worker, funded by a grant from the island Vision Fellowship Foundation. Meris will be using a town street list to call and reach out to all Edgartown seniors with whom the Anchors has little or no contact. Paul explained the street list is created chronologically from oldest Edgartown residents to the youngest. Paul has a list of all residents who will turn 60 by the end of this calendar year. Meris will be reaching out to the oldest first. She will work on Tuesdays and Fridays, 6 hours each day, for 16 weeks. Jay agreed with this strategy; he thought it would put us in touch with seniors who do not take advantage of the Anchors for whatever reason. Jay

suggested Meris meet with the Friends. There was discussion.

Paul advised he would also be buying a new color copier with this year's state grant.

The next Board meeting will be November 16th- not the 30th- as had been published on this agenda.

Olga suggested and requested that the Anchors resume cooking classes as we had a few years ago. Paul said they were extremely popular, but difficult for our cook, Diane, to schedule with her other lunch responsibilities. Paul said perhaps we could have some cooking classes with "guest" chef instructors. We'll propose that Wendy arrange some in the future after the C4L moves. Madeline left the meeting at this point.

Director of Senior Services Report Wendy entered the meeting. She gave out our Anchors 2018 personal planners. Wendy discussed some of the workshops she attended at the MCOA conference, including some new ideas for programs, such as outside activities such as hiking, ice skating, disc golf, or snow shoeing. She mentioned a men's conversation group called "The Dull Men's Group." Wendy discussed intergenerational programming, taking seniors to town schools, as well as bringing the kids to the Anchors. Kevin spoke about grandparents raising grand kids. Marvene spoke about kids reading to seniors programs. Wendy showed the Board a copy of next month's newsletter which will be going to print soon.

Wendy described some programs she'd like to implement in January, including chair yoga, "A Matter of Balance" class, art classes, a meditation class, more movies and pizza, bingo, and more. This week, Wendy has a card making class, birthday café, Adele's piano prelude, a book talk, and a nutrition talk (combined with the Day Program). Cooking classes were discussed further, including the thought they may bring in some younger seniors. The Board thanked Wendy for the great job she is doing and she left the meeting.

Outreach Report Victoria then entered the meeting. Victoria described some of the workshops she took at the state conference, including one by the Funeral Alliance that provided information about funding resources and a chart displaying what each funeral home in the state charges for different services. The charges differ greatly from one to another. There was discussion on the funeral business. Victoria also explained a lobbying workshop she went to.

Victoria talked a bit about Meris, our new part-time outreach worker and her project to reach out to Edgartown seniors who do not use the Anchors in any way. Paul and Victoria talked about the local Vision Fellowship Foundation and its work.

Victoria was asked about her classes and course work. She said she was going for her masters in health care management and described some of the courses and her work. Olga mentioned a nurse at the hospital who might be a resource for Victoria.

Victoria talked about a housing conference she recently attended; she met the new Director of Elder Protective Services who explained how Protective Services may help with housing. Jay asked about the Arbor Inn project. Victoria said funding had become an issue and it's now on the back burner. There was discussion.

There was further discussion about Elder Protective Services and its presence on the island.

Victoria related a case about an island hoarder and how Protective Services dealt with the situation. There was discussion regarding getting a Protective Services representative who lives on the island. Marvene suggested contacting our State representative, Dylan Fernandes, who has an office on the island and may be able to help. The Board thanked Victoria for her good work. Victoria took a group shot of the Board for our newly designed web site, which she has created. She then left the meeting.

Paul reiterated the next meeting is Thursday, November 16th.

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