

EDGARTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING
October 20, 2016
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 AM by Chair Kevin Ryan. Also present were Board members Co-chair Jay Sigler, Glenn Carpenter, Olga Church, and Paul, the Administrator. Leslie Clapp was present to give a report on the MVC4L.

Center 4 Living As a courtesy, Kevin asked that Leslie give her report first. Leslie reported the C4L has a signed lease for the old VNA building. The lease is for the first floor; floor plans have been drawn; and the lease is for 30 years. The process has begun for the various approvals from the town. There was discussion. The proposed moving date is in about a year, maybe next summer, with much strategic planning yet to be done. Leslie mentioned expanding the staff and perhaps adding clinical services and support groups to the C4Living. There was more discussion. Leslie then left the meeting.

New Officers Nominating Committee Paul mentioned that since the last Board meeting, Board member Chris White had resigned by resignation dated September 15, 2016. Chris entered the meeting and was acknowledged and recognized for her work and contributions to the Board and the Anchors. Victoria and Wendy also came to the meeting. Chris was thanked by all present and presented with a card and a gift of Anchor-shaped silver earrings. Chris received a round of applause and expressed her gratitude. Board members inquired about Heidi Boyd who attended the last meeting and would like to join the Board. Paul said Heidi advised she could not attend today, but definitely wants to be on our Board. Kevin said he would advise the town that we recommend Heidi be sworn in as a member of the Board and see that she is so sworn. Kevin then moved to the top of the agenda.

Minutes Copies of proposed minutes from the September 8, 2016, meeting were distributed and read. Paul noted that he had amended the minutes to reflect the Department by-laws provide for the maximum number of Board members to be seven. Upon motion by Olga to accept the minutes as corrected, Jay seconded, and the minutes were adopted unanimously.

Budget Paul distributed copies of the budget report with expenses as of October 17th. Paul noted the electricity line item is high because the town bookkeepers paid some of last year's electric bill with this year's money. The electricity expense will exceed the budget amount by the end of the fiscal year. Paul will make it up (hopefully) from another line item, e.g., building maintenance. There was general discussion about the budget and line item expenses. Answering Jay, Paul said if it looks like the operating expenses will go over, he will apply to the town Finance Committee for more funding.

New Officers Nominating Committee Kevin said he will follow up with a letter to the town so that Heidi can join the Board and hopefully be sworn in before the next meeting. Paul said he had recruited another new member, but she withdrew because she could not make Thursday morning meetings. There was discussion.

Administrator's Report Paul said the Town had distributed a memo dated October 13th, advising of a "hiring freeze" and that, until further notice, the town would not be creating any new positions. The memo also said the town will "level fund all expense budgets for FY2018," and would carefully scrutinize any requests for budget increases and other new expenses. There was discussion. Salaries are not frozen, but will increase according to the salary schedule.

Glenn inquired about our part-time outreach worker position. Paul replied the Personnel Board had approved the position for the period of January through June, 2017, and it will be funded by our state grant, same as last year. Funding for Lyndsay, our previous part-time outreach worker, expired last month, September, and she stopped working for the Anchors at that time. Paul said he will submit an article for consideration at the spring town meeting for funds to repair the fence along Daggett Street which is in deplorable condition.

Glenn inquired as to the Friends' intentions for the allocation of its recent inheritance/donation. Paul said he recently reached out to the Friends by way of phone calls to Co-presidents Barbara Phillips and Madeline Fisher and that there have been no recent meetings (although one is planned soon) because Janice has been recovering from surgery. Paul told Madeline he would make himself available for that meeting.

Paul reminded the members of their term expiration dates: Glenn, 2019; Olga, 2018; Kevin, 2018; Jay, 2017; vacant/Heidi, 2017

Director of Senior Services Report Wendy entered the meeting. There was a round of praise for Glenn's recent excellent bus tour of the island with our Anchors seniors. Wendy gave a report of events, programs, and activities for this year and the number of people who attended them. She told about our Blue Fish Derby fish distribution. There was general discussion. She also talked about lunch, bowling, mah jong. We will be having a lunch acknowledging our Edgartown veterans for Veterans Day. In addition to a number of other events, Fire Chief Shemeth will be coming to a Friday lunch to talk about smoke detectors, their maintenance and replacement. Wendy talked about our volunteer appreciation project, which includes a reception and film at the Film Center in Vineyard Haven next spring. Wendy then left the meeting.

Outreach Report Victoria came to the meeting. She talked about fuel assistance demands. Hopefully our part time outreach worker will help when hired in January. There was discussion. Victoria distributed an outreach report from MySeniorCenter, reflecting the number and types of outreach services delivered. All agreed the numbers were high. There was discussion about the numbers and how to capture statistics for all we do. Replying to Olga, Victoria and Paul distinguished between the outreach meals delivered and the regular Tuesday and Friday lunches we serve. Victoria discussed Healthy Aging Martha's Vineyard and the ways it can help the COAs deliver services. Responding to Paul, Victoria said she has been managing the cases Lyndsay left behind. Paul said he will be advertising for the state funded part-time outreach worker next month, to begin in January. Victoria then left the meeting.

Paul said Heidi could not attend today but will be at the next meeting.

Upon motion by Olga, seconded by Jay, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 am.