

EDGARTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING
March 19, 2015
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 am by Kevin Ryan. Also present were Board members Olga Church, Jay Sigler, Chris White and Administrator Paul Mohair. Glenn Carpenter had advised he would be unable to attend.

Also in the room were Peter Temple, Patti Dean, and Dianne Durawa.

Minutes Copies of proposed minutes from the February 19, 2015, meeting were distributed and read. Upon motion by Olga, seconded by Jay, the minutes as proposed were adopted unanimously.

Health Aging Task Force On behalf of the island Healthy Aging Task Force, Peter Temple gave a presentation on the County Commissioner sponsored articles appearing on all Town warrants this spring. The articles request all towns to contribute funding, per an existing formula, for an Information and Referral First Stop staff, web site, office, and phone line; and for the Towns to participate in, and contribute to, an island-wide computer system/network, MySeniorCenter, for the purpose of coordinating services to island seniors. Through a PowerPoint presentation, Peter demonstrated projected increases in the island senior population over the next few years and the need for services as a result thereof. At present, the seniors are 16% of the island population; it is projected to double in fifteen years. There was extensive discussion concerning this shift in senior demographics and implications, including needs and services, such as transportation, caregivers, housing, and medical care. Strategies were discussed for reaching and informing the community to get out support for the HATF sponsored articles at the town meeting. Peter then left the room.

Outreach Report Victoria was off island attending an Alzheimer's training workshop so there was no outreach report. She will present her plan to resurrect our Gatekeepers program at the next meeting.

Friends of ECOA Report Patti Dean, the Friends secretary, gave a brief presentation from the Friends. The Friends have not met lately and have yet to choose a new president. There was discussion. Olga suggested the Friends get involved with supporting the Healthy Aging Task Force initiatives and promoting them among the Edgartown senior community. They are looking for new members and were successful in their last fund drive. There was discussion about membership and recruiting new members. Janice Belisle is maintaining and monitoring the Friends funds that support the Anchors' exercise classes and other programs. Wendy and Janice communicate regularly regarding the Friends' account and Anchors' expenses.

Budget Paul distributed copies of the budget report with expenses as of March 16, 2015, and as reported by the town accountant in the town bookkeeping system, MUNIS. Paul said there were no extraordinary expenses. Paul pointed out we are about 70% through our fiscal year and about 60%+ of budget expended. We anticipate staying within our operating budget. Jay asked about the building maintenance line item. Paul said he was confident it would be spent on building improvements this spring.

Director of Senior Services and Volunteer Report Wendy then came to the meeting. Everyone received a copy of the new March newsletter. Wendy mentioned some of the upcoming activities, including Jay's Chromebook workshop, Balance of Power fitness class, Officer Will Bishop will give a talk on drivers transitioning to the passenger seat when it is no longer safe to drive. The island hospice organizations will be doing separate presentations; Victoria will do a presentation on her Memory Support Group. There will be more computer workshops, a meeting to create a phone tree program, and a reverse mortgage presentation. Olga requested a program on the phone scams and ways in which to avoid being victimized. Scams were discussed. Wendy then left the meeting.

Administrative Report Paul said he has spent most of this year's formula grant, which he receives through the State Executive Office of Elder Affairs, purchasing kitchen equipment, shelving, a bike rack, washer/dryer, and dishware. Wendy and Paul attended the annual Island Health Fair at the Hospital, promoting Anchors events and programs. The town meeting is on April 14th; articles for our air conditioning and My Senior Center software and hardware are on the warrant. Dianne Durawa explained that there are also articles for the county's purchase of the VNA building to house the MVC4L. There are articles for the town to help fund and participate in the Healthy Aging Task Force articles creating an island wide First Stop web site for information and referral. The articles and dollar amounts therein were reviewed and discussed. Dianne encouraged Board members and others from the community to speak at the town meeting. There is an all island selectmen meeting next week to inform about and discuss the VNA purchase issues.

Paul requested the Board pass a resolution allowing him to carry 5 vacation days past his anniversary date of March 14th; Paul explained these are days he did not use, and a resolution would give him 15 vacation days to use in his current year. Chris so moved the resolution, Jay seconded, and it passed unanimously. Kevin as Acting Chair, signed the written resolution Paul presented.

MV Center for Living Leslie Clapp was also attending the Alzheimer's training. No one from the C4L was present. There was discussion concerning the status of the county's efforts to purchase the VNA building to house the Center for Living.

New Business There was no new business.

The next meeting will be April 16, 2015.

There being no further business, upon motion by Chris, seconded by Olga, the meeting was unanimously adjourned at 10:15 am.