

EDGARTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING
September 17, 2015
MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 8:35 AM by Kevin Ryan. Also present were Board members Olga Church, Jay Sigler, Glenn Carpenter, and Administrator Paul Mohair.

Minutes Copies of proposed minutes from the June 18, 2015, meeting were distributed and read. Upon motion by Glenn, seconded by Olga, the minutes as proposed were adopted unanimously.

Budget Paul distributed copies of the budget report with expenses as of September 15, as they appear in the town book keeping system. There was discussion about the electric bill and our new air conditioning. It is believed the new system is more efficient than the portable window units. Paul pointed out the new sound absorbing panels he installed in the dining room. Jay agreed they improved the room acoustics. There was general discussion about the budget and expenses.

Administrator's Report Paul said he intends to have acoustic ceiling tiles installed in the dining room this fall. He believes the building storm windows are in bad shape and may need to be replaced; he intends to have a contractor take a look at them.

Paul said he spoke with the town HR coordinator, Marilyn who will assist in advertising and arranging for the part-time outreach worker, funded by our annual state grant. The town personnel committee has approved the position, and it need not go before the selectmen, although Paul will see that it appears on a town meeting agenda so that all are informed. The position will assist Victoria with fuel assistance applications, other administrative and general outreach.

Paul said staff morale is excellent; Diane, our cook, got her promotion to the next highest grade on July first, the start of this fiscal year.

Director of Senior Services Report Wendy then joined the meeting. She advised that Murdick's has been donating all their day old pastries to the Anchors, which we have been enjoying all summer. Wendy spoke about some of our events and activities planned for October, including derby fish distribution, the state COA annual conference in Sturbridge, and our volunteer recognition luncheon. The luncheon was discussed. Wendy has scheduled an iPad and Facebook workshop and an obituary writing course. Wendy described the Shining Sea Bike Path group ride we took recently. She also discussed the group trip to the Boston North End next week. The board also discussed what could be done to support Victoria whose son was injured in a recent car accident. Wendy said there's about \$2,000 in our special account, which supports our lunch program. There was general discussion.

Outreach Report Victoria entered the meeting. The board members inquired about Victoria's son and offered to help her and him in any way they could. There was discussion. Victoria spoke about her outreach in general and how she is dealing with increased demand for outreach. She has about ten people who need regular case management. She then described the new MySeniorCenter program which tracks and allows seniors to check into programs by swiping a key card. Paul showed the key cards to the board. There is a training next week on the key cards and how they are used. Paul reiterated the part-time outreach worker should begin in January; we should start to advertise next month. The hiring process was discussed. Victoria then left the meeting.

Friends of ECOA Report No one from the Friends was present. There was discussion. Paul said he spoke to Janice who said there would be a new president soon. The response to the Friend's appeal letter has been very successful. They are good financially and expected to continue doing well. Paul said he will request to get a Friend representative appear at the next meeting. It was agreed that Janice Belisle is doing a great job keeping our Friends active and getting donations. Victoria briefly interrupted the meeting to advise Paul his car repair shop needed him to immediately approve a \$1,600 brake job.

MV Center for Living Report Paul recently hosted a meeting of the island COA directors at the Anchors which Leslie also attended. Leslie reported there had been some conflict with the county regarding the administration and management of the Center. These differences have been resolved. Apparently, the building has been purchased by the county, and the Center should take occupancy by next summer. Olga observed they have received donations of over one million dollars this year so they should be able to get whatever is required to adapt the building to their needs. There was discussion about how the Anchors space and rooms will be used once the Center vacates.

New Business Paul and the Board discussed the new MySeniorCenter, how and when it will be implemented. Paul said the staff will be attending the training next week and he hopes we will be using it soon thereafter. Kevin remarked upon the improved look and environment of the Anchors building interior.

Upon motion by Olga, seconded by Glenn, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 AM.