

EDGARTOWN COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING
June 19, 2014
MINUTES

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

Minutes Copies of proposed minutes from the May 15, 2014, meeting were distributed and read. Upon motion by Olga, seconded by Kevin, the minutes as proposed were adopted unanimously.

New Board Member Paul said the town had approved Jay Sigler as our new Board member, replacing Nancy Shemeth. Jay will get sworn in when he returns from his vacation. Everyone agreed Jay will be an asset to the Board and the department.

Budget Paul distributed copies of the budget report with expenses as of June 16, 2014, and as reported by the town accountant and town bookkeeping system, MUNIS. Paul said the end of the fiscal year is June 30th, and we should be close to spending the whole budget without going over. There was discussion on a few items. The report contained no extraordinary or exceptional expenses or line items. There is about a \$1,000 balance until the end of the fiscal year, June 30th, which will be spent.

Program and Volunteer Report Wendy then came to the meeting. She said she feels very comfortable in her position at the Anchors and finds everyone very helpful. Wendy distributed copies of the July newsletter, which everyone complimented. Wendy mentioned some recent activities which included talks and music; she said all events have been well attended, including Jim Thomas' Spiritual Choir. The Library Friends are also using our big room to meet one night next week. There will be computer classes, a bike ride, a Vineyard Sound performance, women's and men's breakfasts, and more. Wendy said the Kelly House had approached us about conducting a kids' program on our lawn this summer; Paul said if we could coordinate it with a senior intergenerational program, it might work. Kevin said to be very sure we had the documents we need to avoid any liability and to be sure the Kelly House had all the appropriate licenses, permits and certifications it might need to run a children's summer program. Paul said he would make sure our COA was protected in this respect. Wendy said the volunteer program was running well with a lot of participation. There was discussion about building use and the best times of the day to hold an event or program.

Friends of ECOA Report There was no one from the Friends present. Paul said Jay will resign from the Friends, since he is now on our Board. The Friends will be looking for new members and a new president.

Administrator's Report Paul advised he had recently been served with a complaint brought by Greg Packish, the son of one of our outreach clients, asking the court to restrain or prevent the "Anchors Staff" from "harassment," or reporting him to Protective Services and the Edgartown Police for the abuse and neglect of his mother. Edgartown's lawyer, the office of Ron Rappaport, represented us in court; the case was dismissed immediately. There was discussion. Paul reported things were going well at the Anchors with the programs and personnel. Programs were well attended and our staff is performing very well.

MV Center for Living No one from the MVC4L was present. Paul said he had recently attended the MVC4L board meeting as well as a few other meetings concerning the county's purchase of the VNA building in Vineyard Haven, which the county plans to then lease to the MVC4L. The money for the purchase of the building will come from the towns. All towns support the project, subject to the final determination of how much each must contribute. An independent appraiser will appraise the building's value soon. Everyone is very optimistic.

Outreach Report Victoria then came to the meeting. She said she is unusually busy for this time of year. She related some of the outreach she was doing, particularly with finding senior housing. There was discussion about senior housing on the island and waiting periods. Everyone agreed it is a serious problem. Victoria spoke about the Healthy Aging Task Force and her committee to provide more senior housing through the "Green House" model. Victoria is encouraging our clients to get on the senior housing waiting lists. She also discussed CORE referrals for the last month, and medical services for CORE clients. There was agreement that Victoria should keep copies of results for the mini-cog tests she has been administering to clients. There was more discussion about Protective Services and the mother of Greg Packish. Victoria then left the meeting. Olga suggested more ways the plights of seniors might be made known to the public.

New Business The Board discussed the demonstrated need for additional outreach support; and more support for Wendy should the MVC4L relocate in the near future.

The Board agreed to have no meetings in July and August, unless Paul needed to call one. The next meeting would be September 18th.

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