

**Carlisle Council On Aging Board Meeting
January 21, 2014
Carlisle Town Hall – Clark Room**

Board Members Present: Abha Singhal, Liz Thibeault, Tom Dunkers, Lillian DeBenedictis, Elizabeth Acquaviva, Joanne Willens, Jean Sain, Liz Bishop, Verna Gilbert, Melinda Lindquist, Peggy Hilton. Associate Board Members Present: Sandy McIlhenny, Mary Daigle, Natalie Ives. COA Staff Present: David Klein, Angela Smith

The Meeting commenced at 10:35am. Abha Singhal, Chair, presided.

Secretary's Report: A motion was made to accept the December Board minutes as submitted by Liz Bishop. Motion carried by voice vote.

Treasurer's Report: A motion was made to accept the December Treasurer's report as submitted by Verna Gilbert. Motion carried by voice vote.

Social Worker's Report: A report was not submitted at this time. However, Peter Cullinane met with Angela Smith a week ago and he is active with several Carlisle clients.

Outreach Coordinator and Program Manager's Report: A motion was made to accept the December OC/PM Report submitted by Angela Smith. Motion carried by voice vote.

Director's Report: David will investigate whether or not the unduplicated volunteers' number of 102 in the summary statistics is included in the 520 total seniors served. The topic of the transportation budget was discussed. A motion was made to accept the December Director's Report submitted by David Klein. Motion carried by voice vote.

Senior Day Trips - Joanne Willens gave an update on recent and upcoming offerings that are advertised in the Carlisle Connection Newsletter. Sandy McIlhenny reported that she has a full van for the Boston Flower Show.

MMSS – Jean Sain reported that she attended the Minuteman Senior Services Board meeting on January 8. MMSS is celebrating its 40th anniversary this year. Some items touched on were Protective Services (PS) – there had been a large number of calls over the holidays to PS. Discussions have begun with community partners on the topic of hoarding and investigating ways MMSS can provide a training forum for the community. A half-day session has been proposed and details will be forthcoming. In January the Governor's budget will be in and then Elder Affairs will review it. Joan of MMSS will provide an updated list of State Legislators at MMSS next Board meeting. They also viewed a 15 minute video entitled "Courage to Speak" where we heard 5 nursing home residents tell their stories. Some of the residents felt unsafe and the fear of reprisals kept them from voicing their complaints. The Ombudsman Program Co-Directors gave a brief talk on the program. The Ombudsman provides a means for persons in long term facilities to voice their problems and concerns and have their complaints addressed. They visit weekly and report their findings regularly to the program office.

Friends Update: No Rep from FOCCOA was present today. However, David Klein had mentioned to Liz Thibeault that the Friends wanted to be more involved in the concluding aspects of the COA Long Range Plan. Therefore, Liz Thibeault met with Jace Tilton of the Friends and updated her on the Long Range Planning process to date. Jace will attend the next LRP meeting on February 3.

Old/New Business: The February Board meeting is canceled due to a lack of a quorum but reports will still be submitted for the month.

-The Community Planning Input meeting on January 25, with respect to 330 Bedford Road, needs representatives from the COA. Several Board members agreed to make an effort to attend.

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-David Klein recently attended a Human Services & Equity in Transportation Forum in Boston. He thought a particular PowerPoint slide used in a presentation by Greater Lynn Senior Services would be a useful visual tool for illustrating what the COA does in the LRP presentation.

-A Motion was made to approve David Klein taking an online UMASS Gerontology Transportation class. Motion carried by voice vote.

-At Ned Berube's suggestion, the Carlisle Connection newsletter has been revamped by using a softer format. Ned is continuing to support the COA in the PR/marketing area.

-The Nomination Committee is holding a luncheon for prospective members after the COA Board Meeting so they can learn more about the Council on Aging Staff, The COA Board and the FOCCOA. Liz Thibeault went over the role of the Board members at the luncheon. The purpose is not a hard sell luncheon but strictly informative. The topic of Associate Members joining to learn about the COA and Board, getting engaged and then moving up to an open Board position was discussed. Also discussed is the term of an Associate member and the Nominating Committee will follow up with the Selectmen's office for clarification.

-David Klein thanked Elizabeth Acquaviva and Stephanie Blunt for volunteering to assist with the Annual Bingo Event. Storage of baskets and bingo game was discussed. Although Elizabeth created baskets of items for bingo prizes, she mentioned she received items from many generous people in the community.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting which carried by voice vote. Chair, Abha Singhal adjourned the meeting at 11:44 am.

Next Meeting Town Hall Clark Room at 10:-35 am on March 18, 2014.

Elizabeth Acquaviva
COA Board Co-Secretary