

**Council on Aging
Minutes of Meeting
May 24, 2011**

Chair Marje Stickler called the meeting to order at 7:04PM. Board members present: Marje Stickler, Helen Taylor, Verna Gilbert, Jean Sain, Jim Elgin, Liz Bishop, Elizabeth Acquaviva, Abha Singhal, Phyllis Goff, Ted Read and Sandy McIlhenny. Associate members present : Tom Dunkers and Joanne Willens. Also attending were staff members Debi Siriani, Peter Cullinane and Angela Smith. Carol Killpartrick was not present. Friends' member present: Estelle Keast. Guests Lillian Debenedictis and Mary Daigle.

Marje Stickler introduced Mary Daigle and Lillian Debenedictis as guests who may be interested in serving on the Board.

Secretary's Report: The minutes of the April 26, 2011 meeting and the February 7, 2011 special meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report: Abha Singhal reported that the LRTA funds that are not spent by the COA are returned to the town. The COA can spend these LRTA funds on other line items in the budget. Peter Cullinane's budgeted amount can be rolled over for the next year. The report was accepted.

Director's Report: Debi Siriani reported that she needs ideas and volunteers for Old Home Day. Ted, Sandy, Abha and Joanne volunteered to work on ideas for the parade and a booth. In June the Carlisle COA has been invited to visit Westford's senior center for lunch and a program. Fin Com would like data on our programs and a long range projection. She is looking for office space for the new administration person who will work 12 hours per week. Her report was accepted.

Outreach Coordinator's Report: Angela reported that she that she received a beautiful letter of thanks from Dot Milne who has been able to stay in her home because Angela was able to coordinate her care. She continues to work with Peter Cullinane and Elizabeth Barnett on problems seniors are having. She is looking for help with the craft table. Her report was accepted.

Social Worker: Peter Cullinane reported that he is working closely with Angela on some issues. Some seniors struggle living in their homes and have difficulty accepting services. The group thanked Peter for his hard work. It is helpful to have volunteers visit seniors and just "chat". His report for April was submitted and accepted.

Transportation Report: Carol Killpartrick's report was submitted and accepted.

Travel: Joanne Willens reported that she had 22 people for the Stoneham theatre trip. She needs to get information to people so that they can sign up for the theatre 3 months in

advance. North Shore wants a deposit 3 months in advance and full payment in 6 weeks. Stoneham is more flexible. Joanne was thanked for her hard work.

Friends of the COA: Estelle Keast invited the COA Board to come to the annual meeting on June 12 from 3 to 5 pm at Fontaine Richardson's. She asked to meet with a small group to coordinate budgets and programs for next year. They are looking forward to cultural programs organized with the library. The group thanked the Friends for all their support.

Minuteman Senior Services: Phyllis Goff reported that M.M.S.S. had a successful on-line auction and raised \$6,000. They are worried about formula grant cuts. There is a need for protective care services, home care, adult day care and counseling services. There are 90 cases of elder abuse reported each week.

Old/New Business: The nominating committee of Verna, Jean and Abha proposed a board for next year. Chair: Liz Bishop, Vice-Chair: Verna Gilbert, Secretary: Elizabeth Acquaviva, Treasurer: Abha Singhal, additional board members: Jim Elgin, Tom Dunkers, Helen Taylor, Jean Sain, Joanne Willins, Phyllis Goff and Lillian Debenedictis. The associate board would be Ted Read, Nadine Bishop, Marje Stickler, Sandy McIlhenny and Natalie Ives. A vote on full board members and officers will be taken at the June meeting. Details on the summer board meeting and potluck supper will be announced at the June meeting.

Next meeting date June 28, 7 PM Heald Room at the **Town Hall**.
Adjournment at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Helen Taylor
Secretary