MINUTES MILLBURY COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Date: October 16, 2019, 7:30 AM

Present: Kaye Peltier, Steve Walinsky, Stuart Mulhane, Kevin Higginbottom Rick Townsend, Marie Kosiba, Edna LaPan, Joyce Sampson and COA Executive Director Judith O'Connor

Absent: Lee Ayotte

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 AM by the Chairman.

VOUCHERS:

Vouchers were signed at this meeting.

MINUTES:

A motion to accept the September minutes was made by Marie Kosiba seconded by Richard Townsend. Vote: unanimous.

CORRESPONDENCE:

We received an e-mail from Lizabeth Killeen, Regional Shine Director requesting the following info from COA's because of the new Medicare Open enrollment. Are both COA and counselors receiving the status on how far out appointment are currently being booked. Can additional counseling time be added at our site, and can Counselors give additional assistance to area needing to add additional hours for appointments. Ms. O'Connor explained that our Shine counselor has added 5 extra day and that Kaye has offered to assist if needed.

We received a letter from Susan Gillam, Project Manager for CEDAC (Community Economic Development Assistance Corp) explaining the Home Modification Loan Program. HMLP offers loans up to \$50,000. Depending on household income, to homeowners seeking to make accessibility modifications to their homes. No interest and no monthly payments with repayment of the loan when the property is sold. Flyers are available at the senior center.

We received a letter from the Millbury Youth Commission telling of a fundraiser and asking to post a poster. They also asked if I would make a basket gift for their raffle.

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STANDING REPORTS:

- A. Budget and Finance Ms. Peltier asked if we had received the final budget figures from the last Fiscal Year. The Board members asked for Ms. O'Connor to get those figures for the next Board meeting.
- B. Personnel Ms. O'Connor has received seven resume for the new position. She asked to interview 3 of the applicants as soon as possible We currently have 2 Senior Aides from Catholic Charities, one is an office worker and one a van driver. The most they can stay is 2 years, but usually leave after one. They have to look for a job placement before the end of the 2 years.
- C. Nominating The Board members discussed the vacancy. They asked that the vacancy be posted to the town web site and on the Cable TV.
- D. Legislative Waiting for contract from the State regarding the Formula Grant.
- E. Senior Center Usage Brierly Pond Village (the 55 and older community) is asking to use the facility on Nov. 13th at 6:30 PM for their annual meeting. The request was granted.
- F. Building Maintenance/Equipment Ms. O'Connor reported that there will be an article on the special town meeting regarding the FEMA money. It's for a generator to be installed at the senior center. Discussion followed with the Board asking Ms. O'Connor to suggest to the Town Manager that the generator be natural Gas and not Diesel fuel. Also placement of the generator because they are concerned about losing a parking space for the disabled.

Director's Report – Ms. O'Connor reported that she is working on the Millbury Cultural Council Grant for summer concerts, the State Formula Grant and the Fallon Health Care Food Pantry Grant. She gave a report on the MCOA conference and she met with HR regarding her goals and objectives. As soon as they are completed she will have a final meeting with him. There will be the annual Police dinner for the elderly on Nov. 14, Sen. Moore's Turkey luncheon will be on Nov.21st. The Friends' Fair will be on Nov. 9th. She met with CMRPC and the Town Planner regarding the Grant that they are writing that will assist low income elderly with making repairs to their homes.

Chairman's Report – Ms. Peltier discuss the vacancy on the Board and will check to why it has not been posted on the Town web site. It was also reported that a Brick, in the garden, was purchased in Betty Hamilton's Memory.

OLD BUSINESS:

Elder Services of Worcester/Nutrition Program – Ms. Peltier reported on the Annual meeting, with the guest speaking Sen. Mike Moore. Ms. Persiani reported that Ms. Peltier is now the new President of Elder Services of Worcester. They are still interviewing for a new Executive Director. Ms. O'Connor reported on the soup and sandwich Fridays with our Nutrition Program. They are very well received. Elder Services only allows a menu change twice a month, so we can only choose 2. She will look into requesting more as increasing the nutrition program is seemething EOEA recommends. The suggested denotion is still only \$2.50 for lunch.

Intergenerational Programs/Friendly Visitor - Ms. O'Connor reported that we have had a many new teens come for applications. We added 1 client to our Friendly visitor program.

Elder Service Work-off Program – Ms. O'Connor reported that she has re-advertised for this program. We did lose 2 workers because they sold their homes.

NEW BUSINESS:

OTHER BUSINESS:

Up Coming events – Annual Craft Fair is Nov. 9th The Police Dinner is Nov.14th, Sen Moore's turkey luncheon is Nov. 21st and the Chain of Lights is Dev. 8th.

Supt of Millbury School has requested time to come a speak to the elderly regarding the new Shaw School. Ms. O'Connor will give him a few dates to choose from. He also asked for us to put up an informational poster.

Flu Shots will be given out on Oct. 17th from 9 AM to 12 noon here at the Center.

The members discussed the newsletter and would like to have a column for "Do You Know" ask a question. The next month would have the answer and the first one to send in the correct answer would win a prize.

They also discussed revisiting the COA's Policy and Procedures sometime in the near future.

The Chairman adjourned the meeting at 8:45 AM

Next Board meeting will be held on Wednesday, November 20, 2019 at 7:30 AM.

Respectfully submitted, Judith A. O'Connor

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Stephen Walinsky