

**Wellfleet Council on Aging Advisory Board  
Minutes – 10/16/19**

Attendance: Sarah Multer, Evelyn Savage, Laura Gazzano, Patty Shannon, Wil Sullivan, Peg Carnduff and Suzanne Thomas

Absent/Excused: Robin Slack, Dian Reynolds, Brian Quigley

Vice-chair Wil Sullivan opened the meeting at 9:03.

Minutes: Minutes of the 9/18/19 meeting were approved as sent with motion by Sarah and second by Peg.

Director's Report:

- Suzanne reported that overall everything was going well at the COA.
- She reported that Bayberry Landscaping was the only vendor to respond to weed, mulch, take down a dead tree and do the fall clean up the rear garden. Since it hadn't been done in several years, the cost was \$6,000. Suzanne expects it to be closer to \$2,000 each time next spring and fall.
- The irrigation system was drained and blown out in preparation for winter.
- Suzanne may need to ask the Friends for help with the spring cost. She is putting this expense in her Capital Budget request for FY 2021.
- Now that summer is over, there have been a few seats available for the Thursday luncheons.
- Suzanne will attend the Rural Healthcare Initiative – Healthcare on Cape Cod meeting in Hyannis tomorrow.
- Insufficient storage space has become an issue and the DPW is buying large metal storage units which will be outside near the sheds. These are less expensive and more durable than wooden units.
- The step up on the new bus is too high for some seniors. Suzanne is looking into after-market solutions to correct this.
- Frank Corbin is a new bus driver now that he has sold his business.

Guest:

- Ernie Bower, a former Advisory Board member, asked to speak with the group about the issue of aging in place with needs for knowing of reliable vendors.
- A discussion of the feasibility of compiling a list of handymen who could do minor home repairs and were taking new customers.
- Vetting would not be done to avoid liability issues. For example, in the instance of home health care, the Town attorney does not allow the COA to recommend individuals, only agencies.
- After discussion, it was agreed that having a data base of names and contact information available at the COA would be similar to having cards or ads on the back bulletin board which occurs now. There was consensus that this would be a good idea.

- Next steps – Ernie will define categories and send to Suzanne who will put names and contact information of various vendors in a PDF format that will be easy to retrieve. Drivers to the airport should be a category. A call will go out via eblast and the WAVE for handymen who are local who are accepting new customers and do small jobs to have their services included in the data base.

#### Friends of the COA (FCOA):

- Sarah reported that Wellfleet Dines Out went well and two restaurants have sent in their donations to date. A reminder letter will be sent to the others.
- Evelyn noted that she talked to several owners and they were very pleased with the attendance on their dates.
- The next board meeting is 10/29/19.

#### Old Business:

- Toast and Jam are confirmed for the spring concert to be held 6/2/20 at the COA from 3pm-5pm.

#### New Business:

- Suzanne discussed the concept of a community center without walls that would include the COA, primary school, library and recreation department. School, library and recreation departments are organizing. Events and activities will be offered at various town venues. The COA could participate.
- Suzanne then suggested an activities publication that would piggyback on this with funding from local advertisers.
- Wil asked about meeting with other local COA advisory boards to share best practices. Newsletters from other towns are available at the front desk. It was recommended that these be collected in a binder to have them more accessible for people to see.
- Laura suggested a "field trip" for one of our members to visit other towns.
- Wil noted that Marc Strauss is showing movies in the Library as well as teaching an Open University course.
- It was noted that the Open University sends money to the COA for the use of a room and this is put in the COA gift account.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:15 am.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, 11/20/19 at 9am in the COA board room.

Respectfully submitted,  
Evelyn Savage

