

Council on Aging Meeting  
December 4, 2001

Members in Attendance:  
Arletta Cioffari-chairperson  
Beverly Guild-Secretary  
Joe Bausk  
Judy Deutsch  
Catherine Kuras  
John Rhome  
Ron Riggert

Also Attending:  
Ruth Griesel-Director

The meeting came to order at 7:15 p.m.

The minutes of the November meeting were approved as written.

Director's Report-Ruth Griesel

- Last month was very busy. Lillian Glickman was here for a "Soups On" presentation. The Thanksgiving Dinner at L/S was terrific with a 25% increase. The flu clinic gave out 381 shots on November 7<sup>th</sup>. Tomorrow will be the second clinic. The two classes at the Center are ending next week. In mid-February Eleanor Kafalas, will teach a course on the history of the Arabic peoples.
- Wayside Inn Dinner-There was a shortage of tickets and many people were disappointed. In the future perhaps we need to do a lottery. A committee will be formed to look into this. We felt that Ed Rawson should be on the committee. Joe Bausk and Cay Kuras have volunteered to be on this committee, as well.
- Amount brought in by the classes-John Adams-\$580.00, with 37 students. Jane Austen-\$375, with 25 students.
- Sign for the Senior Center-This item did not make the second round of cuts at the State House. Rep. Susan Pope has made an offer to buy the sign for us with about \$1500 from her campaign funds. A motion was made and passed that we decline this offer with "Thanks". Another motion was made and passed that we accept John Rhome's offer to give to the Sudbury Senior Account \$1500 to buy this sign in the new year.
- The vender providing the newsletter mailing labels is probably going out of business. Ruth will explore other options and costs. We will present this information to the "Friends" if as expected, the costs do increase.
- The Bridges program is going well. We can perhaps do presentations to other towns to expand this program. Maybe we can get this program on TV. Maureen Valente would like to submit the Bridges program for an award to the State Municipalities Association.

#### Review of Annual Report-Ruth Griesel

- Some of the changes in the report were made, and a new report was passed out. Members of the COA will need to sign this report. It was suggested that in the future quantitative information be included.

#### BayPath Board-report submitted by Louise O'Connor

- BayPath Executive Director Christine Alessandro reported that the state budget is late this year, and many cuts are expected. The staff is looking at ways to cut costs. Some elderly are institutionalized because they have needs that require assistance. Many of those needs could be met at home if assistance was provided. The State spends \$43.00 a day as its' share for Medicare Nursing home patients, and only \$3.69 a day for an elder in a Community Care Program.
- Acting Governor Jane Swift has created a New Olmstead Task Force that will be holding several hearings across the State in November and December.
- BayPath members will be at Borders Book Store for the book store's annual Christmas book wrapping event.

#### Accreditation-Cioffari/Bausk/Mann

- The Steering Committee has met again and will meet with the Selectmen on January 7<sup>th</sup>. More people have accepted the position of Committee Chairs. They will meet on January 14<sup>th</sup>.

#### Tax Relief Committee-Deutsch/Riggert

- The Selectmen liked the direction of the article we're submitting and want the public to make comments on it. The Committee has been invited back on January 7<sup>th</sup>. However, a motion was made and passed that we send the article back to Paul Kenney as a correction will need to be made. Ron will do this. We will need signatures of all COA members on the final version.

#### Spirituality/Saging Workshop (Update)-Kuras/Guild

- It is hoped that we can continue this program. It is hoped that the committee can sit down with the presenters and get ideas as to how to proceed. Evaluations were positive. Maybe we can do a quarterly program. The "Friends" did subsidize this.

#### Auditing of Financial Statements-Griesel/Riggert

- No report. Joel Aronson has not yet returned calls.

#### "Friends"-Esther Mann

- Ken Clark fell at the Natick Mall and broke his arm. He is now at the Emerson Rehab. An appeal letter written by Judy Deutsch was accepted, and Don Oasis has sent it to the printers. Ed Gottmann will supervise the stuffing of the envelopes, and the "Friends" will sign the personalized letters.

#### Holiday Crafts Bazaar (Wrap Up)

- A "Thank You" note was received from the Thursday Crafters.
- \$1600 is in the account from the sale of t-shirts and net proceeds from the Bazaar. The "Friends" bought and sold the t-shirts and sweatshirts.
- Steve LeBonte worked well.

#### Senior Strutters Show (Wrap Up)

- The show was absolutely delightful. About \$3,000 was netted for the Senior Center. Some think this was the best show ever.

New Business

- Financial Priorities of the Council on Aging (Introduction)-We need to consider the following questions: What do we need money for, what are our long range plans, and how do we obtain the money that we need? There will be more discussion at our next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m. Our next COA meeting will be held on January 8, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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Beverly B. Guild, Secretary