

TOWN OF SUDBURY  
COUNCIL ON AGING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2014

WEBSITE: <http://sudbury.ma.us/departments/CouncilOnAging/>

Present: Chairman: Jack Ryan

Bob Diefenbacher, Debra Galloway, Robert May, Patricia Tabloski, Barry David, Carmine Gentile, Elizabeth Ingersoll, Alice Sapienza, Phyllis Bially, Bob Diefenbacher.

Absent:

Meeting called to order by Chairman Jack Ryan at 3:00 PM

Minutes of July 15, 2014 approved.

**Guest:** Donald Oasis, Pat Brown.

**Directors Report:** 1. New Program Coordinator Sharon Wilkes was introduced. New Web editor introduced to the Town website last week. Decorative flower buckets have been placed in the entrance area. 2. Schedule for Sudbury Day is being finalized to be held at LS High School. Photos, handouts, mugs, information and newsletter will be distributed. 3. State audit revealed that some of the contractors at the Senior Center should be classified as employees. Conversion process is underway. 4. Metrowest Regional Transit authority is interested in centralizing dispatch. They wish to dispatch from their offices. Riders would have to have an account with MWRTA. Liz and Barry will serve on a sub-committee to advise Deb and attend meetings. An update will be provided at the next month. 5. Carmel is ill and will no longer be trips coordinator. One or two new coordinators will be sought. 6. Boston Post Cane will be given to the oldest citizen in town. We will seek out the oldest citizen in town.

**Chairperson's Report:** 1. Facilities for seniors. Fairbank Community Center issue is on hold until after Sept 9<sup>th</sup> when the Police Station issue is settled. Three different designs have been prepared and presented to the Task Force. The three designs are fairly close in price (about \$1million). Many issues remain to be settled. A meeting will be held in the future between the Fairbanks Task Force and Town Planning officials.

**Baypath Update:** Carmine Gentile: Meeting attended on July 23. Baypath is looking to restore \$5 million in service funds and additional supportive housing funds. Healthy Aging Collaborative is now gathering data for each community in the Commonwealth. The website [www.mahealthyagingcollaborative.org](http://www.mahealthyagingcollaborative.org) is now available. A total of 1,319 home care consumers are serviced in all programs.

**Bridges Report:** Bob Diefenbacher reported several meetings have been held with the Assistant Superintendent. The number of sessions have been cut from 6 to 4 (45 minute sessions) for the 4<sup>th</sup> grade and a program for Middle School students has been requested. Andrea will now be paid by the school and will have a contract with the school. It has been proposed that the program will run in the Fall for all schools.

**Friends Website:** Bob Diefenbacher reported a meeting of a Website planning subcommittee was held with a website developer. Information related to the COA to be posted on the Friends website is still to be decided.

**Lifelong Learning:** Phyllis Bially reported she phoned an administrator at Framingham State University to request a Professor come to the Senior Center to present a lecture. No response has been received as yet. Six 1 ½ hour classes are planned. (Possible topics include music appreciation; nature courses; humanities; astronomy).

**Remote Meetings:** Phyllis Bially discussed the possibility of attending meetings remotely if COA members cannot attend due to illness, travel or personal reasons. Meetings with Sudbury Selectman have been held and they have agreed to place this item for discussion on their September meeting. The Commonwealth has guidelines in place for attending meetings remotely and these have been approved by the Attorney General. Discussion ensued.

**Melone Property:** Bob May presented background on the issue. The property is off 117 near the cell tower (gravel pit – about 50 acres). The town would like to use the property to satisfy the 40B requirement. A committee will be developed to help with the zoning, guide the development and work with the planning board to meet housing requirements. Data is available on the demographic studies to guide the planning. Eight members will be selected for the committee from the town and two ad-hoc committee members.

Alice Sapienza added to the discussion by presenting data on the Town Census 2013 and discussed elders with economic instability and isolation living in Sudbury. There are a nexus of issues that should be discussed at our upcoming planning meeting. Discussion ensued.

Some confusion exists regarding income and eligibility for Sudbury Housing Authority. Metrowest Legal Services may be able to help seniors organize their application for subsidized housing. Alice and Deborah will work on developing guidelines with input from Metrowest Legal Services for tenants to help define income according to IRS standards. This will be further discussed/presented at the next meeting.

### **New Business**

Planning Meeting Weds. Oct 1 from 6-9 PM. Bob Diefenbacher advised this is not a strategy session but a planning session. Last year the COA accomplished several of

the seven objectives discussed at last year's session. We will discuss last year's objectives and add new ones if needed. Materials will be distributed to the COA members prior to the planning meeting.

A vote for Adjournment was unanimous at 4:55 PM

Submitted by:

Patricia Tabloski, Secretary

Attachment One: BayPath Elder Services Board Meeting Minutes July 23, 2014

Next Regular Meeting: Tues Oct 7<sup>th</sup> 3-5 PM

Special Planning Meeting Oct 1, 6-9 PM