

TOWN OF SUDBURY
COUNCIL ON AGING
MINUTES OF MEETING
May 5, 2015

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

Present: Chairman: Jack Ryan

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

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

Minutes of April 7 Accepted

Directors Report – Galloway On June 2 at 5:30 the annual dinner will be held after the June COA meeting and on June 10th the volunteer luncheon will be held at noon. Six transportation meetings have been held with current van riders to orient them to the new system beginning on May 18th. Van users were informed of the need to establish MWRTA account and the new phone number to be called to arrange a ride. All riders have filled out a form to establish the new account and all but four have deposited money into their account. The Chair of Sudbury Commission on Disability called and reported some of her members need transportation to the evening meetings. Information was sent to MWRTA and further discussion is needed to solve the problem. Tax work-off program – Josephine is up and running. So far, one person has been matched and two others are in progress. Now 60 people are benefitting from the program. Workers are needed for *Put and Take* and *trash pickup*. The administrators of the Sudbury Senior Activities account have hired a bookkeeper and accounts are being straightened out but costs are expensive. A meeting will be held to discuss costs. Names of new COA members have been forwarded to Wayne Walker (Human Relations) and he will forward to the acting town manager. We would like to have the process done by June 1 so new members can attend the June Board Meeting. The Boston Post Cane will be presented to the oldest person in Sudbury and the awardee is being identified. Regarding the Bridges Intergenerational Program, Andrea Weaver proposed changing the program from 4th grade to 3rd grade and the Sudbury schools will pay for the program. The Sr Center will be responsible for the Senior Coordinator to line up and schedule the senior volunteers.

Chairman's Report - Fairbank Community Center Update – Ryan The final report of the Fairbank Community Center Feasibility Study has been forwarded to Deb Galloway and other key community leaders. Now under consideration is construction of the Community Center across the street in the Haskell Field. The advantage is that the Community Center would be usable during the transition, but the pool would have to be replaced which would increase the cost. The Fairbanks Task force will engage in further discussion and make a presentation to the Board of

Selection. A joint meeting of Park & Rec, School Administration, high school athletic department and COA was suggested to begin the conversation to plan the programming and begin the marketing. The COA members supported the idea. Chair Ryan has been asked if the COA supports the Rail Trail articles to be discussed at Town Meeting. Discussion ensued. Motion: Carmine Gentile proposed, Diefenbacher seconded. The COA voted to oppose articles 54 and 55 at the annual town meeting. Unanimously passed.

BayPath Liaison Report – Tabloski – At the April 22 Board Meeting, the budget cuts proposed by the House Ways and Means Committee to Elder Home Care funding were discussed. The new secretary of Massachusetts Elder Affairs to begin on June 1st, Dr. Alice Bonner was announced. The CareGiving MetroWest facebook page was established and over 70,000 visits were posted as of this date.

Transportation Committee Report – Sapienza We have accomplished the first part of the Charter of the SubCommittee. We have surveyed current van users and now will proceed to survey Sudbury residents regarding future transportation needs. Report circulated (See attachment). The website contains all the forms and procedures for establishing an account and accessing services. We need to inform and educate the town regarding our efforts to obtain further information to proceed with survey data needed for long-term planning. An article will be drafted for *The Scene* and handouts prepared for future town meetings. Phasing: begin by addressing residents of 55+ condos (500+) people. Discussion ensued. We will approach the housing managers of the subsidized housing units and the Sudbury clergy associations.

Small Grants Program (Sapienza/Diefenbacher) Bob to suggest Jim Kupfer, Asst. Planner for Sudbury present information on the Small Grants program at RMA board meeting. Vendors cannot be listed as part of the process. Planning will proceed.

WebSite (Diefenbacher) Friends have met with a designer and the project is moving forward. Sudbury Foundation will be approached for a grant \$10-12,000.

Nominating Committee (Diefenbacher) Officers for next year. Motion: Chair Jack Ryan, VP Barry David, Treasurer Phyllis Bially, Secretary Patricia Tabloski. Unanimously approved.

Open Meeting Law (Bially) Phyllis attended a town presentation in March by Barbara Saint André (new town counsel) regarding the open meeting law. Town committees must establish an agenda, share documents used in the meeting and post the minutes (see attachment B). Subcommittees must comply with same laws as full committees. The open meeting law does not apply to social events. Remote participation may be opted for on a committee by committee basis after approval by the board of selectman.

4th of July Parade Float (David) Barry suggested a banner or other activity to demonstrate the efforts for a new community center. Discussion ensued regarding distribution of fliers. This is an opportunity to gain momentum for the community center. Jack will discuss ideas with the Task Force.

Board of Selectmen (Ryan) No Discussion.

Town Manager Selection (Ryan) Process to be determined and COA would like to have a representative on Search Committee.

Other Comments/Ideas

None noted.

Motion to adjourn by Bob Diefenbacher and seconded by Phyllis Bially. Meeting adjourned at 4:50 PM.