

Council on Aging Minutes

October 17, 2012

Chairman Snell called the meeting to order at 6:55 PM at the Senior Center. Present were, Mr. Broughton, Mrs. Fritsch, Mary Prenney, Director of Elder Services, Mr. Veno, Mr. Wallner, and Mrs. Donato

Pledge of Allegiance

Approval of Minutes September 19, 2012

Motion made by Mr. Broughton and seconded by Mr. Veno. Voted 6-0 unanimous.

Letter forwarded to MVES regarding appointment of Mr. Veno and Ms. Mawn to the MVES Board was Voted 6-0 unanimous.

Director's Report:

Mrs. Prenney spoke of the following:

- Fall Newsletter went to press this October 15th and should be out by end of week.
- COA Director and Town Engineer are planning to meet again with the Historical Commission November 14th regarding new drawings for the newly designated parking spaces on the West side of "The Building on the Common."
- Money for the construction of the parking spaces has been approved at Town Meeting.
- It is projected that more money may be needed and the parking project may need to be rescheduled for Spring of 2013.
- The Veteran's Luncheon is scheduled for noon on 11/8/2012.
- The Thanksgiving Dinner hosted by Rep. Jones and Senator is scheduled for 11/18/2012. Everyone is encouraged to bring donations for the Food Pantry.
- A full report is posted at the Senior Center.

Friends of the COA Update:

No representation was present. An invitation will be extended again next month.

Promote the COA:

Eleanor Fritsch attended the trip sponsored by the FONRCOA to the Gardner Museum. Richard Wallner gave a neighbor, who inquired about North Reading Services, information about the COA. The COA continues to encourage all to donate to the NR Food Pantry.

Resource Guide Project:

Mr. Wallner continues to be a liaison with the Social Services Action Team who is going forward with the project of producing a Resource Guide for all citizens and age groups to access for Town of North Reading and area Resources. The Social Services Action Team has received a grant for \$50,000 from the State of MA which they will be able to use for posters and other materials as well as setting up a web site, etc.

Old Business:

No old business was discussed.

New Business:

Mrs. Fritsch discussed with the Board that many current Senior citizens find it necessary to acquire computer skills as well as access technical assist/support with computers and mobile devices. The Board agreed that the NR COA would be very limited in providing this service due to space constraints at the Senior Center. After a discussion of possible options, Mrs. Fritsch agreed to search out area Senior Centers that may be available for North Reading Seniors to attend; Director, Mary Prenney, agreed to look into the possible availability of public resources, *i.e.*, NR schools and Library as a resource for elders to acquire computer skills.

Next meeting of Council was moved to Wednesday, December 5, 2012 at 7:00 PM.

Adjourn 7:37 PM:

Motion to Adjourn made by Joe Veno and seconded by Ed Broughton. Voted 6-0 unanimous.

Date Approved: _____

Maureen L. Donato, Secretary _____