

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING
December 16, 2010 9:30 AM

Present: Chair Marilyn Hurst, Vice Chair Rose Morace, Director Karen Michelman, Mary Beth Bergeron, Ernest Blake, John Bowen, Pat Camerota, John Carey, Saul Finestone, Margaret Jenkins, Diane Nadeau, Eleanor Stolar, Rob Aseltine (Select Board representative)

Excused: Joseph Occhiuti

Welcome: Chair Hurst welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:30 AM.

Secretary's Report: The October, 2010 emended minutes were accepted as sent. The November, 2010 minutes were accepted as corrected for typos.

Treasurer's Report: Karen reported we are six months into the fiscal year; spent all of the United Way Fund; FOLOCA will now pay the Program Coordinator salary; we have received half of the Formula Grant. Report will be filed for audit.

Select Board: Mr. Aseltine, Chairman, reported that they are in the midst of budget planning-projection 7.5 – 10% cut (\$350,000-\$400,000). They are looking at areas to cut; looking to engage a consultant to look at executive sessions – consolidation to start January 1; revamp the web site. Mary Beth asked how much a consultant would be paid. Mr. Aseltine answered \$15,000 to \$30,000. Eleanor Stolar stated that Ludlow was having a longer winter vacation and that it would be to their advantage by making school days longer. Mr. Aseltine answered, "We couldn't do that due to school activities." Mr. Aseltine stated that he would not attend our January meeting as he will be out of town.

Staff and Director's Report: Director Karen Michelman reported that the Veterans' Task Force did meet and there are 1200 veterans in Longmeadow; 13 slots are available for property tax abatement – 15 applied; Board of Health has a list of citizens to call in case of emergency; FOLOCA mailing has gone out and the response is very good; fuel assistance has 8 new applicants and 30 are already getting help; Food Pantry is very busy; Karen would like someone to go to the Food Bank where goods can be purchased for 17 cents per pound; a New year's brunch is planned for January 5, 2011.

Committee Reports:

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| Advocacy | See New Business |
| Benefactors | No report |
| GSSI | Rose Morace stated that at their meeting Mr. Ernie Blake was recognized for being on their Board. Also, there are many new programs and help is needed in meal preparations. There is a training program for people to help elders balance while walking. |
| Legislative | none |
| Longmeadow update | none |
| Nutrition | Inspection of the kitchen went well. |
| Over 60 Club | No meeting in December |
| Transportation | Karen reported that the van is doing well; \$2 round trip in town; \$3 to Mall round trip. |
| FOLOCA | A large mailing was sent out and over 100 have replied. There is \$140,000 in the account now. Maple Tree Shop is doing well. New carts have been ordered for the kitchen and should be in soon. Diane Nadeau gave he report. |

Announcements none
Old Business none
New Business Eleanor Stolar (Advocacy Committee) presented a draft that she wrote for discussion by the Board. Karen passed out what was passed by the voters of Hamilton, MA.. After much talk, John Bowen said he knows a State Senator and a good letter should be presented and that it should not be confrontational. Diane Nadeau stated “that in the last sentence the word ‘respect’ might be changed.”

Motion to adjourn was made by Saul Finestone. The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Margaret Jenkins, Secretary

Next Meeting on January 20, 2011