

Council on Aging  
Longmeadow, Massachusetts

Board of Director's Meeting - December 21, 2006

Meeting called to order at 9:34 a.m. *In attendance:* Karen Michelman, Executive Director, David Grimes, Eleanor Stolar, Tina deMeza, Diane Nadeau, George Pennington, Ernest Blake, Jim O'Donnell, Pat Camerota, Saul Finestone, Charlotte Burke, Ann Marie Friberg, Alana Hoffman, Charles Hamlin, John Carey.

*Absent:* Ellen Heye / Betty Rochford excused to the Kitchen for Holiday Party

*Visitors:* none

***Committee Updates***

*Secretary's Report* Accepted as read with correction of John Carey being in attendance at the November meeting.

*Treasurer's Report:* The COA Director passed out a recap sheet for the Council on Aging showing disbursements thru December 20, 2006. Also passed out as Sheet #1 Budgetary Information.

*Benefactors:* Reported by Eleanor Stolar that we are getting considerable interest from Trust Funds, which is great.

*GSSI:* Reported by Ernie Blake that all COAs are having trouble with transportation and that GSSI was looking into same.

*Legislative:* Karen Michelman passed out MCOA recommended reading flyer and informed Board that perhaps there would be a \$1,500 cut to the Formula Grant. Alana Hoffman reported that the IRS will direct deposit into three different accounts your tax return to encourage saving and investing. Dave Grimes also reported that many of the large tax preparers (HR Block for instance) are offering loans against '06 tax refunds.

*Longmeadow Update:* Saul Finestone reported that the Town Meeting was held and the exemption for retirees passed. He reported that Moderator Kallock did a fine job. Also discussed were non binding issues, i.e. leaves.

*Transportation:* Eleanor Stolar reported that the transportation committee (Stolar/Nadeau/Camerota/DeMeza) met on the 12<sup>th</sup> at the COA dining room for lunch and discussion. It was decided that there would be an article put in the Voice asking for feedback

first to establish a need. The article asked for people to call Camerota/Stolar/Nadeau for feedback. Tina deMeza will tabulate all results.

*Nutrition:* Betty Rochford was unable to give her report as she was helping in the kitchen for the Holiday Luncheon scheduled this date.

*Over 60:* Ann Marie Friberg reported was held at Bertucci's. And she also reported that past president Mary Ballard has passed away this month. Diane Nadeau reported that she and Eleanor Stolar went to Mary Ballard's wake. Ann Marie Friberg stated that the next meeting was to be held January 4<sup>th</sup>, 2007.

*SALT:* Tina deMeza reported that on December 11<sup>th</sup> Fire Chief and Board of Health Director met with handouts and lots of information for all. There are to be two more SALT programs as well as RAD, which will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of April. Hamlin reported that Arlene Miller is on TV interviewing Fire Chief on emergency preparedness. George Pennington said that there should be drills as they used to have for example with Fallout Shelters. John Carey reported that people have to be aware certain things that are need in everyone's home.

*Foloca:* Diane Nadeau reported that Karen Michelman had been in contact with Mike Wrable (DPW) who had met with the representatives of the Sheriff's Department regarding general improvements to the COA. The issue of a handicap ramp was again brought forth. Nadeau stated that it was a crime that the COA was not ADA compliant and that there was no reason that it wasn't, after all, many coming to the COA arrive with canes, walkers and some in wheelchairs using the example of Pat Camerota with her walker, and without the help of her husband she wouldn't be able to get in. When asked what she would have done if her husband wasn't there, she responded that she would have had to wait for somebody to help her in. George Pennington agreed that something should be done to the entrance of the COA.

*Director's Report/Staff Announcements:* Karen Michelman, Director reported that they still had flu vaccine left and also pneumonia vaccine. TB tests were given to new town employees and they are implementing the new statistical computer program. There are 15 volunteer applicants (5 new/10 prior) for the \$675 amount off taxes.

*Old Business:* Tina DeMeza asked about the Volunteers getting together since the flu clinics are over. She also reported on the Holiday Baskets.

*New Business:* Karen Michelman reported that she is in the budget process and has requested a \$2,200 increase from the town. Saul Finestone requested that she write a letter to Town for money in the budget. Saul made the following motion: "that \$2,200 increase be asked for the expense account and also for a new copier" Motion seconded. All in favor except Nadeau.

Meeting Adjourned at 10:36 a.m.  
Respectfully submitted,  
Diane B. Nadeau, Secretary  
COA Meeting 12/21/06