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Council on Aging Minutes 06/07/07

ARLINGTON COUNCIL ON AGING
 27 Maple Street
 Arlington, MA 02476-4909

Robert Tosi, Jr., Chair
 Paul West, Vice Chair
 Shirley Chapski, Secretary

Meeting of the COA Transportation Committee
 June 7, 2007

MINUTES

Place and Time of Meeting: Arlington Senior Center, 27 Maple St., Arlington, 7:00 p.m.

Members Present: Robert Tosi, Jr., Paul West, Harry McCabe, Ann MacGowan, William Carey and Shirley Chapski.

Members Absent: Karen Nichols and Mildred Hurd

Others Present: John Jope, COA Executive Director; Elisa Lopez, President, ASA; Christine Connolly, Director of Health and Human Services

Call to Order: Bob Tosi presided and Shirley Chapski kept the minutes. A quorum of 6 was present.

Van & Dial-a-Ride Service: John reported that the number of one-way van rides to and from the senior center and medical appointments average 400/month and Dial-a-Ride does approximately 300 one-way trips/month. Harry would like to see more detailed rider ship figures as requested during the May 17, 2007 board meeting.

Harry departed the meeting at 7:10 p.m.

Transfer of Funds from the Sevoyan Trust: Discussion followed on transferring funds from the Sevoyan Charitable Trust and John recommended \$30,000 be transferred to help fund the transportation program in 2008 and another \$30,000 the following year. Paul moved to consider moving funds (no specified dollar amount) from the Sevoyan Trust, Ann seconded, four voted in favor Bob opposed. Motion carried.

COA Board Openings: Christine Connolly joined the meeting. She said there have been two applicants for the open position on the board, one of which is not acceptable. Also, would we like to decrease the number of board members? It is something to think about. Bill suggested advertising the board opening in church bulletins. Also, there is need to advertise for people to serve on the Friends Committee. Ann offered to write an article for cable TV and make a slide.

Sanborn Funded Trips: John reminded the members that on December 14, 2006 the board voted to increase the the cost to the Sanborn Fund for a round-trip ride for an individual's cancer-related appointment from \$30 to \$40.

Other Transportation Matters: (a) Ann does not like selling advertising space on COA vans. Bill agreed. (b) Shirley said she is not adverse to increasing ridership fees a small amount. (c) Bob spoke on Dial a Ride contract renewal which is coming up. Presently, each one way cost to a rider is \$3, we pay \$4.50 for a total of \$7.50 for a one way trip. Ridership has gone from 400 rides/month to 350/month. (d) Bob suggested a Needs Assessment Survey. Discussion followed, including setting up focus groups within the committee. Bob talked about reducing van service by one day.

There being no further discussion, it was voted to adjourn. Meeting adjourned.

Shirley Chapski
Secretary

Next Meeting of the Transportation Committee July 16, 2007 at 4 p.m.