



**Town of Arlington, Massachusetts**  
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## Council on Aging Minutes 11/17/2005

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

Shirley Chapski, Secretary

Regular Meeting of the Council on Aging  
 November 17, 2005

### MINUTES

Place and Time of Meeting: Arlington Senior Center, 27 Maple St., Arlington, 7:30 p.m. Members Present: Mildred Hurd, Robert Carey, Robert Tosi, Jr., Ann MacGowan, Harry McCabe, Ruth Palumbo, Paul West and Shirley Chapski.

Others Present: John Jope, COA Executive Director, Andrew Fischer, Town Meeting Member and Town Cte. on Health Ins., and Marilyn Richards, seminarian.

Quorum Identification/Call to Order: Shirley Chapski, Secretary, presided and kept the minutes. Full quorum of 8 was present.

Minutes of the October 20, 2005 Regular Meeting: Bob Carey moved to receive the minutes of the October 20, 2005 Meeting, Paul seconded. There being no corrections, Bob Carey voted to approve the minutes, Paul seconded; all in favor.

#### Citizens Open Forum:

- Andrew Fischer spoke on a HMO community health care delivery program, which would provide care to people who are dually eligible for Medicaid and Medicare. Andrew's purpose in coming before the COA was to determine if there is a enough interest in such a program. After discussion, the Board invited Andrew to come to the December 15th meeting, at which time he will have more information. Andrew then left the meeting.
- Harry read a letter dated Nov. 11, 2005, from John E. Bowler, Chairman of the Arl. Emergency Assistance Task Force, concerning the Arlington Assistance Fund which has been set up to assist eligible families with their heating costs. Mr. Bowler is hoping for a donation from the Sevoyan Bequest. The matter was referred to the Sevoyan Bequest Committee.
- Marilyn Richards, seminarian, introduced herself. She is at the COA, doing her internship and working with John through May.

#### Executive Director's Report:

(1) Grant Application to the Executive Office of Transportation & Construction (EOTC): John has submitted a grant application to the EOTC Mobility Assistance Program for a new van. The EOTC will pay 80% of the cost of a new van. (2) FY2007 Municipal Budget: John met with Patsy

Kraemer to lay out initial FY07 budget. (3) Annual Report: Is working on the annual report and will forward a draft to the board members for discussion at the Dec. 15th meeting. (4) Medicare Changes: The Medicare changes are being addressed by the COA staff.

Those who seek assistance are provided with information on their options. On Nov. 16 there was a meeting for providers at the COA led by Cindy Phillips, who is Regional Manager of the Shine Program for Minuteman. (8) December Senior Notes: John is working with Joan Pippin on the next issue of Senior Notes which will include information on the Medicare changes. (9) Nov. 17 Flu Clinic:

The clinic was held at the Veterans Memorial Rink and approximately 1000 shots were administered. Ruth asked if there was any outreach to people who were confined to their homes. Paul said the Visiting Nurses Assoc. was providing shots for the Housing Authority. COA nurses also provided some home shots. (10) Sevoyan Dental Care Subsidy Program Yearly Report: Harry requested further information on the figures contained in the yearly report and Line 410, "Sevoyan Dental Program," on the Oct. Financial Report, saying he would like to bring the two reports together. Harry also pointed out that previously we had agreed to quarterly reports and that is something we should get back to. (11) MCOA News: There is a lot going on at the state level that affects seniors particularly the update on Property Tax Exemptions for senior citizens.

#### UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

- Election of Officers: The offices of Chair and Vice Chair remained unfilled. Item tabled until the December meeting
- Municipal

Budget for FY 07: After discussion, Ruth moved to submit to the Town (1) a Warrant Article on the continuation and expansion of the health program initially funded by a Leahy grant, (2) a Warrant Article on the Minuteman Services Fair Share for 07, and (3) a Warrant Article to reinstate the Harry Barber Community Service Program; Bob Carey seconded; seven members voted in favor; Harry abstained. A letter will be sent to Patsy Kraemer stating that we intend to submit Warrant Articles on these concerns and respectfully request her support. Ruth asked John to draft such a letter. Harry will work with Bob Tosi and John to draft the articles for discussion at the Dec. 15th meeting. •Joint ASA/COA Boards Meeting: Shirley reported that members from both boards, along with John Jope and Joan Pippin, met on October 24 to discuss plans for the joint meeting which will take place on January 12, 2006 at 6:00 p.m. at the Senior Center. A light supper will be served. Bob Tosi and Shirley will work on setting up the next planning session and Bob will draw up an agenda. Ruth suggested adding health promotion and wellness to the agenda. Ruth then moved to approve up to \$250 from the Gift Fund to cover expenses, Harry seconded, all in favor. •New COA Board Members: Patsy Kraemer has interviewed applicants and will be making her recommendation to the Town Manager.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

•Mass. Executive Office of Transportation Resolution of Support and Verification: A copy of the Resolution authorizing John Jope on behalf of the COA to file an application for a grant to assist in the purchase of a van was distributed to the board. Harry moved to authorize Shirley Chapski to sign the Resolution on behalf of the Board, Bob Carey seconded, all in favor. •Arlington Assistance Fund: John stated that Jack Bowler called on him seeking the COA's support. The goal is to raise \$100,000 by Dec. 1st. Harry said he was told that there is no urgency--next April will be fine and that the matter be referred to the Sevoyan Bequest Committee.

Recess for Meeting of the Sevoyan Bequest Committee (SBC): Bob Carey moved to recess for a meeting of the SBC for the purposes of discussing funding from the SBC to the Arlington Fuel Assistance Fund, Ruth seconded; 7 in favor, Harry abstained, motion carried. Harry, Chair of the SBC, presided. Discussion ensued; Paul West moved the question. Bob Tosi pointed out that the need is not urgent at this point in time and moved to postpone the vote on appropriating SBC funds; Shirley seconded; all in favor. Harry declared the meeting of the SBC adjourned.

Harry suggested a meeting of the SBC for Tuesday, December 6. After discussion, Bob Carey moved to not meet on December 6, Bob Tosi seconded, 7 in favor, Harry against. Motion carried.

#### OTHER REPORTS:

•COA Representative/Liaison to the Arl. Seniors Association: Mildred asked if the Board wished to have her continue in this position and if the board felt the position served a purpose. Harry said it was important to have a COA representative at the ASA meetings. Bob Carey then moved that

Mildred Hurd continue to represent the COA at the ASA meetings, Paul seconded, all in favor. •COA Representative/Liaison to Minuteman Senior Services: Harry reported that Lois Cardarelli, Arlington representative to Minuteman Services, has resigned, thus creating an opening. He also referred the board to a letter from Joan Butler concerning our local assessment of \$9065.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Paul moved to adjourn; Ruth seconded; all in favor.

Adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Shirley Chapski, Secretary

Date of next Regular Meeting, December 15, 2005 at 7:30 p.m.