



Town of Arlington, Massachusetts
730 Massachusetts Ave., Arlington, MA 02476
Phone: 781-316-3000

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Council on Aging Minutes 02/20/2003

Regular Meeting of the Council on Aging
 February 20, 2003
 MINUTES

Members Present: Richard Murray, Mary Dodge, Harry McCabe, Mildred Hurd, Mara Klein and Shirley Chapski

Members Absent: Dorothy Nicholas

Others Present: John Jope, COA Executive Director; Gloria von Hyeburg, ASA President; and Bill Murphy, COA Transportation/Volunteer Coordinator

Quorum Identification/Call to Order: Richard Murray, Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Shirley Chapski kept the minutes. A quorum of 6 was present.

William Murphy, COA Transportation/Volunteer Coordinator. Bill spoke, giving a brief description of his background in working with elders, his education in gerontology and his interest in creating possibilities for volunteerism. Bill began work on February 18. The board members welcomed Bill and wished him good luck in his new position.

Minutes of the November 21, 2002 Meeting: Shirley moved to receive the Minutes of the November 21, 2002 meeting; Mary Dodge seconded. All in favor. Mary moved to approve the minutes, Mildred Hurd seconded. Five voted in favor; Mara abstained due to her absence from that meeting. Motion carried.

Minutes of the January 16, 2003 Meeting: Mara moved to receive the minutes of the January 16, 2003 meeting; Mary Dodge seconded. All in favor. Shirley moved to approve the minutes; Mary seconded. Those present and voting at the January 16 meeting voted in favor of the January 16 minutes. Motion carried.

REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

- COA Transportation/Volunteer Coordinator. Position has been filled and John commented further on Bill Murphy who started work this week.
- The RUOK Program is up and running and applications are available. Lt. Serson will be taking information from applicants at the Police Station; Sue Culhane at the Housing Auth., and John, the social worker or nurse will do the evaluations at the COA. John and Lt. Serson will be taping a segment on the RUOK Program to be shown next month on the local TV program, Golden Opportunities. Brochures will be distributed as well.

ASA Representative to COA: Gloria von Hyeburg spoke on (a) seniors' concerns regarding cutbacks in funding; (b) ASA hostesses who volunteered to cover the COA receptionist position; (c) the success of the recent Valentine's Party; and (d) the upcoming St. Patrick's Day Party.

Harry moved to table the remaining agenda items except for budget questions

and that we spend the rest of the meeting discussing this year's and next year's budgets. Mildred seconded the motion; all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

FY04 COA CDBG Funding Request.

John went over the items in the COA funding request that were allocated in FY03 and the requested funding for FY04 and discussion followed. Next,

- Harry moved to approve Item A — Transportation Enterprise Fund funding request of \$67,850; Mary Dodge seconded; all in favor.

- Harry moved to approve Item B — Meals on Wheels Scholarship Program funding request of \$2000; Mary seconded; all in favor.

- Harry moved to approve Item C — Volunteer Services Coordinator (in Planning Dept. budget) funding request of \$36,600; Mary seconded; all in favor.

- Harry moved to approve Item D, as printed, — Adult Day Health Center Scholarships funding request in the amount of \$13,000; Mary seconded; all in favor.

- Harry moved that to approve Item E, as printed, — Lifeline Subsidy Program funding request in the amount of \$5,000; Mildred seconded; 5 in favor, Mara opposed. Motion carried.

John asked that his opinion with regard to the Lifeline Subsidy request of \$5000 be made part of these minutes. — since the document was distributed a check for \$5000 from Leahy Arlington Auxiliary has been received specifically for the the Lifeline Subsidy Program. Consequently, John feels that this item should be eliminated form the CDBG Request for funding in ' 04 because he feels it is not worth asking for block grant money for this because we will in all probability lose a lot of private support that we have made a highlight of.

- Mara moved to add another item. Item F — Additional dollars for Social Worker's and Nurse's Salaries funding request in the amount of \$13,400, to be split 50-50; Harry seconded; all voted in favor.

Budget Scenario FY04.

John reported that in November, Town Meeting reduced our municipal funding for this year for a total of \$6,900. He then went over Human Services budget scenario for FY04 describing the proposed cutbacks. The most serious cuts would be to the hours/salaries of the clerk secretary, social worker and nurse. He next reviewed the Town Manager's Recommended Reductions for FRY 04.

Mara asked if John had done any projections on how the cutback in the nurse's and social worker's hours would impact seniors. John will work on the percent of service cutback as a result of the recommended reductions. Harry suggested that we have figures of our own to present to the Finance Cte. Mara suggested adding "stories" illustrating the number of elders who will lose services if the recommended cutbacks are implemented.

Harry moved that we meet on February 27 at 6:30 p.m. to further discuss the Budget for 2004. The COA Finance Cte. will prepare its recommended budget for discussion at the meeting. Mildred seconded the motion; all in favor.

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

Adjourned at 9:37 p.m.

Shirley Chapski,
Secretary

Date of next Regular Meeting, March 20, 2003 at 7:30 p.m