



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

webmaster@town.arlington.ma.us

Council on Aging Minutes 03/20/2003

ARLINGTON COUNCIL ON AGING

Regular Meeting of the Council on Aging
 March 20, 2003

MINUTES

Members Present: Mary Dodge, Harry McCabe, Mildred Hurd, Dorothy Nicholas, Mara Klein and Shirley Chapski. Richard Murray joined the meeting at 8:35 pm.
 Others Present: John Joje, COA Executive Director.

Quorum Identification/Call to Order: Mary Dodge, Vice Chair, presided and called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Mary asked for a moment of silence for our soldiers overseas. Shirley Chapski kept the minutes. A quorum of 6 was present.

Minutes of the February 20, 2003 Meeting: Shirley moved to receive the Minutes of the February 20, 2003 meeting; Mara seconded. All in favor. Dottie moved to approve the minutes, Shirley seconded. All in favor.

Minutes of the February 27, 2003 Special Meeting: Harry moved and Mildred seconded to table the February 27, 2003 Minutes until the Chairman could be in attendance. Three voted to table; three against.

REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

• FY 2004 Budget:

—A letter, under Richard Murray's name, was sent today to the Town Finance Cte. requesting a time for a meeting to discuss the FY04 budget.

—John next commented on his document, The COA Returns More Than It Receives, showing how the proposed cuts in staff hours would impact delivery of COA services.

—Discussion ensued on the FY2004 Budget as Recommended by Patsy Kraemer to the Town Mgr. and John's spreadsheet "FY2004: What's Needed to Exist," which he prepared at Richard's request. Harry stated our first priority is to prepare for a meeting with the Finance Cte.

•Assisted Living/Housing Options Task Force: The COA does not have a representative on that commission at this time. Dottie expressed an interest in serving in this capacity.

•COA Representative to Minutemen Senior Services: This position is being considered by Phyllis Bailey.

•COA representative to ASA: Mildred reported that the ASA St. Patrick's Day party which she attended was very successful. She expressed disappointment in the last ASA meeting because she was expecting a discussion concerning a joint meeting of the ASA and COA boards but it did not happen. Harry said that there is a lot of support in the ASA for a joint meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(a) Changing some board meeting locations to accommodate the public. Harry moved that we table decision on meeting locations. There was no seconding motion. Discussion followed and Mara suggested adding the Millbrook Building to the list of Housing Authority complexes. Richard was not sure it could be done but would try to achieve Mill Street as a goal. John and Mildred will follow up on getting permission to hold a meeting there. Harry spoke against holding COA meetings in the public housing facilities. Richard said the presidents of the tenants' associations are looking forward to seeing us. The meeting would have to be cleared beforehand with the tenants association president for the site selected.

After discussion, Dottie suggested conducting a trial schedule for off site board meetings.

Mara moved to hold the April meeting at Winslow Towers, the May meeting at the Senior Center, and the June meeting at Drake Village — the off site meetings on a trial basis; Dottie seconded; five voted in favor; Harry opposed; Richard abstained. Motion carried.

(b) Minutes of the February 27, 2003 Special Meeting: Harry moved and Richard seconded to receive the February 27, 2003 Minutes. All in favor. Harry moved to approve the minutes for purposes of discussion, Mara seconded, all in favor. The following change was made: the second to the last paragraph, delete "statement he had drawn up" to "a report he had prepared at the request of the Council, a copy of which is attached. . .". Harry moved to approve the minutes, as corrected, Mildred seconded, all in favor.

(c) Appointment from Arlington COA to Minuteman Senior Services Board: Harry requested that John send Phyllis Bailey a letter inviting her to join the board.

(d) Posting board openings on the Town home page. Discussion took place on how best to recruit new board members. It was agreed that the applicants show a commitment to the elderly. John will pursue advertising for prospective members and report to the Council.

(e) Student Government Day, May 1, 2003. The program involves high school juniors and seniors as a learning experience in local government. Mildred volunteered (as she has in past years) to join with John in participating in this activity.

NEW BUSINESS

- TRIAD Program for Arlington: Mara explained that TRIAD is a national program which assigns police officers to work solely with seniors at risk. For example, the TRIAD officer can do a "wander alert" or respond to a domestic elder abuse situation. She is not sure how it is funded but can get some more information. Mara suggested deferring this item due to the budget crises. However, if we ever want to, she could invite Jon Bailey from Waltham, who is one of leaders in the state involved in this program, to speak with the board. Harry asked Mara to invite Jon Bailey to talk to the board.

- RUOK Program: In response to Richard's inquiry, John said we are getting the word out on the program but response has been slow. A segment on RUOK has been taped for TV.

- Date of Next Regular Board Meeting: Shirley moved to change the date of the next board meeting from April 17 to April 24 at 7:30 at Winslow Towers, subject to the call of the Chair; Mildred seconded; all in favor.

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

Adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Shirley Chapski,
Secretary