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Council on Aging Minutes 01/24/2002

ARLINGTON COUNCIL ON AGING
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Richard Murray, Chair
Mary Dodge, Vice-Chair
Town of Arlington
Shirley Chapski, Secretary

Regular Meeting of the Council on Aging
January 24, 2002

MINUTES

Members Present: Mary Dodge, Mildred Hurd, Robert Bowes, Harry McCabe, Dottie Nicholas, Richard Murray and Shirley Chapski.

Members Absent: Hannah Simon and Phil Mercandetti.

Others Present: Patsy Kraemer, Director Human Resources, Town of Arlington; John Jope, COA Executive Director; Page Carter, COA Social Worker; Paulo Matos, Silverlink Communications; Gloria von Hyeburg, President ASA; Maureen Jackson, COA, Diane Meadow and Jean Hopkins.

Quorum Identification/Call to Order: Mary Dodge, Vice Chair called the meeting to order at 7:45 p.m. Richard Murray chaired the meeting after 8:30. A quorum of was present.

Minutes of the December 13, 2001 Meeting: It was MSV to accept the minutes as written.

Public Forum: Paulo Matos of Silverlink Communications followed up a request made at the last COA meeting -- to convene focus groups with the COA to obtain feedback on the company's product.

Transportation Enterprise Program: Patsy Kraemer spoke on a proposed COA Transportation Enterprise Program for FY03 wherein the municipality would act as an overseer/manager for the van component of the transportation program instead of as a direct provider, utilizing contracted services with SCM Transportation. Harry said we would require a written report on each aspect of our transportation program before any decision could be reached. John will work with the Transportation Committee on this. Matter tabled until the requested detailed reports have been received.

REPORTS

ASA Representative to the COA: Gloria von Hyeburg said she agreed with Harry that more information was needed to reach a decision in regard to the COA Enterprise Program for 03 and volunteered her help if it was needed.

Executive Director's Report:

°A check for \$20,000 has been received from the Sanborn Foundation and delivered to the Town Treasurer's office.

°As an addition to the COA staff's recommendations dated June 22, 2000 for the Sevoyan Fund's investment, John distributed a letter from COA Social Worker, Lourie August, dated Jan. 24, 2002, requesting that the board consider establishing an emergency fund to assist Arlington seniors for specific needs.

°John attended a presentation by Dr. Lillian Glickman, Executive Secretary of Elder Affairs, at the Woburn Senior Center. Key point: the State has awarded supplemental funds to boost Home Care, Protective Services, Supportive Housing and a federally-funded Family Caregiver Support Program has been launched.

°Worked on details for new out-of-town DART service. Harry would like to see an acronym other than DART for this program. Transportation Committee will look into it.

Finance Committee:

No report. Richard said the Lifeline Subsidy Fund is very low. Gloria von Hyeburg said the ASA might be interested in helping with this program and will pursue it with John.

Sevoyan Bequest Committee:

Harry reported that the committee met on Jan. 8 and a quorum was present. At that meeting it was voted to recommend a Sevoyan Dental reimbursement fund for Arlington seniors who would be eligible for such a service if the staff would prepare a written proposal for the Council's consideration and approval. Harry requested that any action by the Council be delayed until Mrs. Simon was present at a Council meeting. John distributed an outline, "Starting a Dental Care Subsidy Program," dated Jan. 24, 2002.

Transportation Study Group:

No report.

Long-Range Planning Committee: Shirley reported that a meeting was held on January 8 and a quorum was present. The committee clarified how it wanted to arrange the financial and service volume by various program elements--how much each program costs and how much service it provides. John said he is working on a program-based expense report.

Assisted Living/Housing Options Task Force: The COA/ASA does not have a representative on the Symmes Advisory Committee at this time. Richard would like to fill this position as soon as possible. Members can call him if they can propose a candidate.

COA Representative to Minuteman Senior Services: Mildred distributed a report entitled, "At Home with Mass. Home Care Grim and Painful Budget," an article on resources for caregivers and Minuteman Senior Services Nutrition Report.

COA Representative to ASA: Mildred said the next ASA Board meeting is (tentatively) February 15 which she plans to attend.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

°Fixed a time for the monthly COA Finance Committee meetings: first Friday of the month at 3 p.m. (following the ASA monthly board meeting at 1:00 p.m.) in John's office. However the ASA will not meet on the first Friday in

February and March but will return to first Fridays after that. These dates will be cleared with Hannah before being firmed up.

°Silverlink Communications -- John Jope gave Mr. Matos a copy of a memo from EOE Elder Rights Review Committee on the procedure to follow by researchers seeking to do research or market studies. After Silverlink has complied with instructions, we will cooperate.

° Senior Center sign: John said it is not in yet and is still waiting for a call from the DPW Paint Shop.

° Senior Center TV: Angelo Bergantino and John visited Cameras Inc. who strongly recommend an extended warranty for the TV for \$500. Carpentry work to build a closet unit to house the equipment will cost \$1900. An additional \$500 is needed from COA and ASA each. Harry moved that we approve an additional \$500 expenditure from the Gift Fund to support the new TV and closet for the Senior Center TV; Mildred seconded; all in favor.

NEW BUSINESS

°Dial-a-Ride out-of-town component, new for 2002.

CORRESPONDENCE

°MCOA new sletter

°Sanborn Foundation letter

°2001 Annual Report

°FY2003 budget statement

°Requested staff input/Sevovan Fund

°EOEA Fact Sheet on a bill that would add Directors of COAs to the list of mandated reporters under the Commonwealth's Elder Abuse Reporting and Protective Services Law.

Harry moved to receive the correspondence, Bob seconded. All in favor.

There being no further business to come before the meeting, it MSV to adjourn.

Adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Shirley Chapski,
Council Secretary

Date of next Meeting, February 21, 2002 at 7:30 p.m.