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Council on Aging Minutes 04/18/2002

Regular Meeting of the Council on Aging

April 18, 2002

MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Dorothy Nicholas, Phil Mercandetti

Others Present: John Jope, COA Executive Director, and Roland Chaput, Chairman of the Arlington Redevelopment Board

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.

Minutes of the March 21, 2002 Meeting: Shirley moved to receive the minutes of the March 21, 2002 meeting; Mildred seconded. Harry moved and Bob seconded to accept the minutes with the following amendments: p. 1, Par. 7, Executive Director's Report, item 4, change the words, "Harry voted" to "Harry moved" and on p. 2, Sevoyan Bequest Committee, Par. 4, after the final word "motion" add "No vote taken." All in favor to accept the minutes as amended. Motion carried.

Roland Chaput reported to the board on the activities of the Redevelopment Board and the Symmes Advisory Committee with respect to the town-owned Symmes property. An RFP has gone out to developers for a feasibility study to develop the property working within certain parameters which have been set by the Town. The board expressed its appreciation to Roland for his update and he departed the meeting at 8:00 p.m.

REPORTS

ASA Representative to the COA: No report.

Executive Director's Report:

- Thursday, May 2, 2002 is the Annual Student Government Day and Mildred will participate again this year
- The Annual Governor's Conference on Aging which was to held on May 24 at the Boxborough Holiday Inn has been canceled.
- A photo op is scheduled for April 19 at the Senior Center with Cambridge Savings Bank showing the new TV towards which they have so generously

contributed. John has it up and running and the first movie will be shown soon. The fee for the license is \$72 per year; we are getting it for this half price again.

•RUOK Program (a computerized telephone calling system), which Richard Murray and the Housing Authority have been so helpful with, will be operational shortly. John has received the software program and it will be installed on a dedicated computer at the Arl. Police Dept. Every household in Town will be notified.

Finance Committee:

Committee met on April 5. John reviewed the March Financial Report with the board. He has met with Lourie August, COA social worker, concerning the scholarship funds and will continue to meet with her to determine if the funding is there to carry us through the month and beyond. The Sanborn Grant is a stable fund but the Transportation, Lifeline, and Medical Appt. subsidy funds do not have guaranteed income.

Transportation Study Report:

John reported that the April 5 joint Finance/Transportation Committees meeting was very fruitful. A simpler set of figures was drawn up as a result of that meeting. He stated that the COA has been subsidizing out-of-town van trips (other than those covered by the Sanborn Grant) 100% and perhaps it is time to review our transportation policy and have the client co-pay. Perhaps this is all that needs to be done for the next year. If present subsidy funds run out, a policy should be in place to cover such a situation. John will draft a policy modification reflecting this case. Bob asked if COA wants to continue providing rides out-of-town. John replied, "Yes because the greatest need of seniors is for out-of-town medical transportation." Harry felt progress was being made with the last set of figures presented but would like to see it broken down further. Richard asked John and Harry to work together on a chart for the next meeting.

Sevoyan Bequest Committee:

John reported on two documents concerning the proposed dental subsidy plan for Arlington seniors who meet certain income guidelines, one of which summarizes what the COA has done to date towards creating such a program and the second, a list compiled by Dr. Toyias of dental services and their costs for those eligible seniors who participate in the proposed program. John will have copies this information mailed to the board members. Harry reported that the Sevoyan Bequest Committee met on April 9 and he felt it was a productive meeting. He also stated that the committee had agreed that John is to establish an account to be named, The Sevoyan Pilot Dental Program, and the account should be in place before any further action. The next meeting of the committee is Tuesday, April 30.

Long-Range Planning Committee: Shirley reported that the committee has not been active for several months and she is now the only remaining member. Richard said the committee will be in abeyance for the present.

Assisted Living/Housing Options Task Force: No report.

COA Representative to Minuteman Senior Services: Mildred talked about the sign which has been erected outside the Senior Center — it looks very good. For the board's information, she circulated a questionnaire from Minuteman Senior Services about signing up to be on their Advocates Mailing List, and asked John to copy it for mailing to the board, and an invitation she had received to the Minuteman Volunteer Breakfast being held on April 25th.

COA Representative to ASA: Mildred said she had shown up for a recent meeting but the date had been changed and she was not notified. Harry said the next ASA meeting is May 3.

NEW BUSINESS

•Due to a scheduling conflict with John's schedule, Richard asked for a motion to change the date of the June regular COA Board meeting from June 20 to June 27. Harry moved to change the meeting date to June 27 and Shirley seconded. All in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE

•The MCOA Annual Spring Conference will be held in Peabody on April 24 and if anyone would like to attend please advise John by the 22nd.
•Board Training which was held on April 9 at the Burlington Council on Aging was attended by John and Shirley.

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

There being no further business to come before the meeting, Mary moved to adjourn; Bob seconded. All in favor.

Adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Shirley Chapski,
Council Secretary

Date of next Meeting, May 16 , 2002 at 7:30 p.m.