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Council on Aging Minutes 09/19/2002

ARLINGTON COUNCIL ON AGING

27 Maple Street

Arlington, MA 02476-4909

781-316-3400

Richard Murray, Chair

Mary Dodge, Vice-Chair

Town of Arlington

Shirley Chapski, Secretary

Regular Meeting of the Council on Aging

September 19, 2002

MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Robert Bowes

Others Present: John Jope, COA Executive Director, and Gloria von Hyeburg, ASA President

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 7 was present.

Minutes of the June 27, 2002 Meeting: Harry moved to receive the minutes of the June 27, 2002 meeting; Mary seconded; all in favor. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes for purposes of discussion. The following corrections were made: p. 1, Sec. "Reports" last Par., delete the words "followed by" and insert the word "within." On Page 2, "New Business," after "July and August Meetings," delete the name "Richard" and insert the name "Mary," and on line 2 delete the words "all in favor" and insert the words "four in favor; one against." Mildred moved to approve the June 27, 2002 minutes as corrected, Harry seconded. six voted in favor; one abstained.

Minutes of the June 19, 2002 Special Meeting: Shirley moved to receive the minutes of the June 19, 2002 Special Meeting of the COA; Mildred seconded. It was moved and seconded to approve the minutes for purposes of discussion. The following correction was made: last Par. change "Richard Murray moved to adjourn" to "Mary Dodge moved to adjourn; Mildred seconded." Shirley moved to approve the June 19, 2002 minutes as corrected, Mary seconded; six voted in favor; one abstained.

Minutes of the July 18, 2002 Special Meeting: Mary moved to receive the minutes of the July 18, 2002 Special Meeting of the COA; Shirley seconded. Mildred moved to approve the said minutes; Dottie seconded; six voted in favor, one abstained.

Citizens' Open Forum: Gloria von Hyeburg, President ASA, spoke on the recent Town Day activities and entertainment at the Senior Center.

Town Day Recap: John said 5 or 6 people signed up on the Volunteer Sheet and the literature and COA magnets were a hit. A discussion took place concerning a promotion for next year that would acquaint the adult children of seniors with the services offered at the Senior Center. Further discussion followed concerning purchasing a canopy for for the COA/ASA booth on Mass. Ave. next year.

Ms. Cindy Friedman, COA/ASA Task Force Representative to the Symmes Advisory Committee. Because the Symmes Advisory Cte. was meeting at the same time as the COA meeting, Ms. Friedman was unable to address the Board. Richard spoke about the upcoming Sept. 26 workshop — the third public workshop the Symmes Advisory Cte. will be conducting to gain community input for the reuse of the Symmes Hospital site.

Transportation: John spoke on the status of the COA Transportation & Volunteer Coordinator. Her medical leave has expired and she has applied for disability retirement but, until a determination by the Town has been made, this position cannot be filled. The staff has been covering these duties in the meantime. In response to a request for volunteers published recently in the newspaper, three new medical escorts and one receptionist positions has been filled.

Dottie Nicholas reported that the Transportation Committee met September 18, 2002. One of the the issues discussed was rate increases. It was proposed that rides to and from the Senior Center by COA transportation be increased from the current rate of 50¢ each way to \$1.00 each way and the fare for out-of-town (towns contiguous to Arlington) by COA van service be increased from \$12 to \$15 each way. Off-Duty Hours service will be eliminated. Dial-a-Ride Program will not be changed. At Mildred's request, the Dial-a-Ride multiple pickup/reduced rate plan policy was explained to the Board.

Harry moved to approve the above proposed changes in transportation rates effective January 1, 2003 subject to quarterly updates; Dottie seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Survey: Goals and Objectives: Mary spoke on the Year 2000 Needs-Assessment Survey; three years ago it was sent to the Arlington seniors as an inclusion in the monthly newsletter, Senior Notes. About one-third of the surveys were completed and returned. The results showed that the principal concern of seniors was transportation to and from medical appointments. The second issue was dental care. The board has acted on these concerns. The Board offered various ways to broaden our services and suggested an outreach program be developed to get our message to more elders. Mara is willing to work on such an outreach plan and John offered his support. Mary moved to table the discussion until the next meeting; Shirley seconded; all in favor.

REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

- John urged members to RSVP for the Volunteers Luncheon being held October 5th.
- On Jan 18, '03 a Las Vegas Revue will be held at the Sons of Italy Hall, a first time fund-raiser sponsored by The Center for Cancer Support and Education and Arlington Friends of Hospice Care. Tickets are on sale.
- The Andover-Newton Theological Divinity Student will not be coming to us this year; John has called Harvard Divinity to see if they are interested in placing a student.
- Volunteers: We have two or three new medical escorts so the program is going well.
- Flu Clinic: We do not have final dates yet but there will be one clinic

held in Oct and one in Nov and possibly in Jan as well. Clinics will be held at the Senior Center.

- RUOK Update: John has spoken to Lt. Serson; there is still a problem with the software but should be up and running shortly and a date set for startup.
- Dental Program Up-date: The first six applicants have been seen and will be referred to the appropriate dentists. Dr. Toyias will evaluate an additional six clients on each of his monthly visits to the COA.

Harry requested a finalized version of the "Dental Care Subsidy Pilot Program;" John will mail the members copies.

COA Representative to Minuteman Senior Services: Mildred reported that Minuteman has a program under contract to do laundry for qualifying seniors.

COA Representative to the ASA: Mildred reported a discussion at the last ASA Board meeting on COA changing the day for their Muscle Strengthening Class. Scheduling conflicts can occur; Gloria and John will work to resolve this issue.

Recess: Harry moved that to recess for a meeting of the Sevoyan Bequest Committee to approve the Minutes of the July 18, 2002 meeting of the SBC; Dottie seconded; all in favor.

At 9:20 p.m. Richard declared the COA meeting back in session.

Financial Report: The August 2002 Financial Report was reviewed. Line #32, Acct. #410 "Dental Subsidy Program," needs to be shown. John will make this change.

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

Adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Shirley Chapski,
Secretary