

**WENHAM COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 9, 2010**

Board Members Attending: Susan Carp, Luci Lynch, Paul Mendonca, Cii Moscatiello and Merle Welsh

Associate Member: Nancy Spofford

COA Director: Trudy Reid

Meeting opened at 1:30 P.M.

Minutes of the meeting of January 12th were approved as submitted.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Town Clerk/COA Director Position - The Director announced that she has taken out nomination papers for the office of Town Clerk. Since this would become effective on May 3rd, she has discussed this matter with the Town Administrator, and noted that she has someone in mind to fill the COA Director position, if she is elected. She will continue to work with Jeff, and the Board, to find a replacement.

Wellness Clinic - As mentioned previously, several people have volunteered to run this program. However, after much thought, she does not feel this is the best way to operate. She is therefore recommending that we stay with Northeast Health and sign a contract for the remainder of the year. This would also make the transition easier, if there is a new director, after May.

Friends Financial Requests - A request was made at the Friends meeting in January, on behalf of the COA, for funding to purchase a new "industrial" shredder, and a literature rack. \$650 was approved for the shredder, and \$450 for the rack. The Director was asked to check around for the best prices (which has been done) and hopes to make these purchases this week.

CH Volunteer Recognition Awards - We have been asked to submit a person to receive this award. After a brief discussion it was suggested that we nominate Mary Kelly, posthumously, for this honor. This idea will be given serious thought. This event takes place on April 25th.

Storm Follow-up - During the recent storm the Director worked with the Police Department to identify seniors who needed to be checked on. Enon Village had a generator and was able to heat the common room, and Seniorcare provided extra food. The Director has asked the Tenants Association for a list of residents in electric recliners or on Life Line, who might need assistance in a power failure. It is clear the COA needs a better

working relationship with the Police & Fire Departments on Seniors who have been taken to the Hospital, etc.

Senior Meals - On behalf of the Meal Program, we have received a grant of \$1500 from the First Church Special Grants Committee. This will continue the program through the July/August time frame. The program at Enon Village serves 6-12 attendees each day. The Director requested that Senior Care consider putting a meal site coordinator for Enon Village in their FY11 Budget, however they responded that they are unable to do this. She is hoping this will be reconsidered.

TRIAD - With the Boards approval, the Director would like to purchase 250-500 File of Life Cards at a cost of \$155-\$310. which TRIAD will make available at the May Town Meeting, to any resident who would like one. First Responders find these very helpful in emergencies.

Upcoming Programs - The 3rd Annual St. Patrick's day luncheon will be held on Tuesday March 16th, at Enon Village, at 11:30 AM, followed by a Memory Loss Program hosted by Northeast Health. In the past we have had about 50 for the lunch with 20-30 staying for the program.

Gerry is back after knee replacement, and the low vision group will start up again on March 23rd. at 1:00. Dr. Gerry Swartz from VNA will be the Guest Speaker. Gerry has also asked the Hamilton COA if they would be interested in working together on a care giver support group. She has confirmed with Northeast that they would be able to provide a coordinator for this group.

H-W COA Van - Still no word on a delivery date.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

KITE DAY: Dick Eddy reports that kite day will be held on August 21st from 10 A.M. – 4 P.M. at Birch Plains (Beverly Airport). Organizations assisting are: Hamilton and Wenham COA's, H/W Rec Department, H/W Library, and the Kites over America professional organization.

Tents will be set up to build kites, at a cost of \$5 each (\$20 family Maximum) The Rec Depts. will register up to 100 each. (This could be increased to 500 depending on interest). There is parking for 225 cars, and suitable rest room facilities.

The Library has scheduled a kite program for April 22nd from 1 P.M. to 3 P.M. to either build or fly kites. Archie Stewart, the Kite Professional, will host this program, and the Wenham Museum will also host a kite building program sometime in the summer. Glenn Davidson will be in charge of that program.

These events will all be promoted by the Rec Depts, the Library, the

museum, and the COA. Plus signage and a banner.

**The Airport Café will provide food and drinks during the event.
Beverly Emergency Management will provide necessary medical aide.**

A large-scale map has been made available by the Beverly Engineering Dept to help with the best set up plan.

Funding this year includes \$500 from the Hamilton Wenham Rec Dept and \$250 from the Rotary Club and Friends of the COA

HANDIMAN REPORT: Dick Eddy noted that they have lost two members of their Committee this year, and now have only 3 regulars. The loss of Jim Shute also means they can not offer chair caning class.

74 hours were spent on eight home energy projects, and the energy audit program has been completed. The Hamilton Wenham Green offered 12 energy efficient products to those who signed up at the Buker School program. The Handimen spent over 50 hours installing these items in 5 homes. That project is also complete. The balance of less than \$300, left from the state grant of \$2500, is currently on account at Dawson's toward future purchases.

The group has a program to build and sell long-handled stools to residents for \$25. However, the loss of two members may require them to reconsider how to continue with this idea.

SATURDAY COFFEES: March 6th the Town Selectmen and Town Administrator were the speakers . A discussion of the Warrant, for the next Town Meeting , the FY11 Budget, and school issues was attended by about 20-25 people. As of now no one is scheduled for April. Suggestions will be appreciated.

ART WORK : Miranda Updike has agreed to keep her work up for the rest of March. Suggestions needed.

MOVIES: The April feature is Grand Torino with Clint Eastwood. It is hoped to be able to present the Blind Side, or Precious, in May if either one is available at that time.

OLD BUSINESS:

There is a great need for new members. Everyone is asked to think of good candidates!

There being no New Business to consider today the meeting was Adjourned at 2:45 P..M.

Next Meeting – April 13th at 1:30 P.M.

Lucille Lynch, Secretary