

## Commission on Aging (COA)

### Minutes from May 28, 2015 Meeting

**Call to Order:** 10:33 am by Chairwoman Jovita Cozean

**Present:** Jovita Cozean, Jo Golec, Rosalie Hoffman, MaryEllen Klinck, Jim O'Brien, John Pagnani, Brad Parker, Vicki Riley-Pach, Alice Sabo

**Absent:** Suzanne Bostelman, Ernie Malavasi: excused

**Guest:** Laura Falt, Director of Community Relations of Marlborough Health & Rehab Center

**Secretary's Report:** Jovita Cozean asked for a motion to approve the March minutes. MaryEllen Klinck seconded. All approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Fund 52 Account: \$5,542.33. No change.

**Correspondence:** None

**Chairwoman's Report:** No report

**Citizens' Concerns:** None

#### Old Business:

1. Jovita asked for "Call System" update:
  - a. Rosalie responded: subcommittee believes proposed program not feasible because of concern that volunteers will not be reliable enough day after day.
  - b. Committee prefers idea of personal, one-on-one calling, perhaps neighbor to neighbor. Waiting for feedback from Darlene Dunbar's "outreach project": do seniors want a call and how often they would want a call.
  - c. MaryEllen commented that several of her neighbors call seniors.
  - d. Brad commented that seniors do not want a call every day. Darlene's project is moving forward: Darlene will have an ID Badge issued by the town. Utilizing the registrar's list.
  - e. Alice commented that the personal touch of an in-home visit should be very effective and Darlene may find that people may not know about the "Call Program" and may indeed need help with filling out the form.
  - f. Brad reminded the group that the second part of the "outreach" program is to find a few volunteers to call younger seniors.
  - g. Jovita suggested that Darlene visit seniors that are temporarily at Chestelm.
  - h. Vicky suggested we leave newsletters at Chestelm for temporary & permanent residents.

- i. Brad reiterated that seniors need to be encouraged to get an alert system. Many of the personal alert systems have built-in GPS.
2. Nominating Committee report:
  - a. John made a motion to vote on the slate as presented at March meeting. He also moved that the Secretary cast one ballot.
  - b. Jo Golec, Corresponding Secretary, cast one ballot. Seconded by Vicky. All approved.
  - c. Term will be for one year.

**New Business:**

1. Craig Mansfield is leaving his current position for job in private sector. He will however remain as *Emergency Management Coordinator*.
2. Jo Golec presented the Annual Report 2014-2015.
3. Brad introduced our guest, Laura Falt. He explained that Laura is very supportive of our endeavors at the Center. Laura thanked the group for allowing her to attend the meeting; she learns about the needs of the town. Topics for future discussions at the Center: antibiotic resistance, GMO foods, healthy smoothies, nutrition, healthy eating/cooking

**Coordinator of Senior Services Report:** Brad Parker reported on the following:

1. Numbers for March & April
2. 28 seniors attended the Medicare presentation. Many concerns re “gray card” Part D
3. Trips upcoming: Plays at Ivoryton & Newport; Thimble Islands & Lenny & Joe’s; Elizabeth Park & lunch
4. Annual Tag Sale: Saturday, August 8. Need Vendors.
5. Proposal: sell pool table. Use has decreased markedly. Need conference room/privacy. Brad will report details of selling the table - when, who, how much, etc - next meeting. \$ would go to Fund 52.

**Next Meeting:** Thursday, July 23, 2015

**Adjournment:** Meeting adjourned at 11:30 am on motion by Jo Golec; seconded by John Pagnani.

**Respectfully Submitted by:** Susannah Griffin