

BARNSTABLE COUNCIL ON AGING MONTHLY MEETING

825 Falmouth Rd, Hyannis, MA, 02601

MINUTES September 17, 2014 9:00 AM

Meeting Minutes: Submitted by Taylor D. Cobb, Vice President

(P=Present A=Absent E=Excused)

Members: B. Burke _P_ R. Burke _P_ T.Cobb _P_ B. Cross _P_ P. Curley _P_ K. Evans _P_ H. Kennedy _P_
E. Letterie _P_ T. Pelish _P_ E. Rollins _A_ H. Stretch _P_ A. Tromba _P_
H. Bodensiek _E_ Alternate: _V_ Associate: J. Melpignano _P_ Associate: _V_ TCL: S. Cushing _P_
FBCOA: G. Sylvester _P_ Director: _P_

The meeting was called to order at 9:02 am. There was a quorum. The minutes from the previous meeting were accepted and approved.

President's Report: The Needs Assessment continues to be a major focus for the senior center and the COA moving forward in the upcoming year. COA members continue to be encouraged to attend events. The upcoming Masquerade Ball is the major fundraiser for the year and all members of the COA are encouraged to participate. Volunteers are needed to upcoming events to support the FBCOA. The 2 community forums at the senior center are coming up on October 7th, the first at 2:00 pm and the second at 5:30 pm. These sessions will last approximately 90 minutes. All members of the COA are expected to attend one of these sessions.

Directors Report: The purpose of the upcoming community forums will be to determine the needs of the community and help to paint a picture of how the senior center will continue to grow in the future. Upcoming focus groups will be held at the SC and will begin the week of October 27th. They will provide education related to senior safety for older and frail elders. Fire Chiefs, Police Chiefs, the Health Department, Building Commissioner and others will participate. The Director and Staff at the SC are excited to be moving forward with the needs assessment. The contract for the needs assessment has been signed by the town manager and returned to the director. There will be press releases going out to the public to foster high participation in the study and to educate the public about the importance of determining the needs of the senior population. A community questionnaire will be distributed by the SC to 20% of the population. This questionnaire will be a pre-cursor to the official survey which will be distributed at a later date. The Aging Mastery Program will begin in October. Cape Cod Health Care has agreed to partner with the SC to provide materials and speakers for the program. The information for this program is in the current issue of the Senior Compass. The Program will consist of 14 weeks. 8 of those weeks will be seminars on topics for seniors including health and wellness, etc. This program targets people over the age of 50. Prizes will be awarded to participants. All of the funding for this program was obtained through the National Council on Aging, thus no monies from the SC budget will be required for the program. The last class will be on February 4th and will consist of a graduation ceremony with certificates for the participants. All clubs with exception of the Bridge Club have returned signed copies of the agreement required to use the SC as a meeting place. A deadline of September 19th has been given to the Bridge Club to comply with these guidelines. Following a recent safety evaluation, it was recommended that the SC obtain a generator to provide backup power in case of outages. A capital budget request will be made to the town. A recommendation has been made to scale back the gardens at the SC as they are unmanageable at the current size. Items in the gardens that require excess maintenance are being removed. The building and grounds department is working on the gardens and small

improvements are being made by the SC. Construction of the Solar Array has been completed. The Town renewable energy liaison is waiting for NStar to commission the Solar Array. A meeting was held to improve the appearance of the Solar Array. Public Works and the Town Engineer have received plans on the new parking lot project. An update has not been given at this time. The Director will check with the town for a status update.

Town Council Liaison Report: No updates from last month.

Committee Report: Needs Assessment – No additional meetings have been held. No additional communications at this time. The representative from the University of Massachusetts will be meeting with the staff at the SC.

FBCOA Liaison: Gary Sylvester – The FBCOA is focusing on the upcoming Masquerade Ball. Council members are asked to make every attempt to attend. A goal of \$15,000.00 has been set for the year. Tickets are \$50.00 / \$35.00 for seniors. The Masquerade Ball will be held at Alberto's on October 24th. The FBCOA are applying for sponsorship for the event through TD Bank. Attendance of other events is low, a weekly calendar of events will be available at the SC to foster participation.

Long Range Planning: Paul Curley – The long range plan for the next 5 years is to bring the 3 elements of the senior center (COA, FBCOA, SC Staff) together. This has been successful over the last couple of years and is expected to continue. The focus of the SC and COA for the next 5 years will be related to the needs assessment. The results of the needs assessment are expected to provide direction for the SC and COA in development of new programs and services. A 5 year plan will be developed as the needs assessment progresses. It would be good to develop a joint committee between the COA and FBCOA on ways to expand the SC or ways to expand the available space at the SC.

An update on outreach services will be presented at the October COA meeting.

New Business: The Director presented a proposed budget request for FY July 2014 – June 2015 to submit to the FBCOA in the amount of \$15,500.00. If approved, this budget request will provide funding for the SC Outreach Coordinator, Van Repairs/Maintenance, Outdoor Furniture for the SC, the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, the Annual Open House Cookout, a Turkey Trot Donation, Constant Contact Subscription and a Netflix Subscription. The budget proposal was voted on and approved, it will be submitted to the FBCOA.

The Cross Wellness Information Center requires \$1493.00 for furnishings for completion. The committee has been hard at work on the center. Completion of the center will be referred to the building committee and a report will be provided. The committee will meet with the Director of the SC as well.

A motion was made to adjourn and approved at 10:30 AM.

NEXT MEETING OCTOBER 15, 2014 @ 9:00 AM

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 AM

Public files are available for viewing during normal business hours.