

**COUNCIL ON AGING**  
**December 30, 2015 at 9:15 am**  
**Middleton Senior Center**

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**Members Present:** Barbara Sanborn, Carol Carr, Barbara Tilton, Martha Fucarile, Frank Leary

**Others Present:** Susan Gannon, Executive Director

**Absent:** Joan Shea-Desmond, Kay Martinuk, William Walczak, Susan McNeil, alt.

Ms. Tilton called the meeting to order at **9:30 am**.

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**Director's Report**

Ms. Gannon stated the budgetary request was sent December 24, 2015 and it is due January 8<sup>th</sup> and so she will be working on the budget nonstop. Next month she will provide more information on the budget process.

Ms. Gannon stated that due to weather concerns there won't be many trips planned for January, February or March. She is still applying for additional grants. The "Friends" group is sponsoring Pirates of Penzance and they're not putting a cap on the amount able to attend. The Maple Street Bistro has offered to have members of the COA/Senior Center in whenever they want with advanced reservations. They have picked a couple of dates which will be posted in the Newsletter. In the past they have gone earlier so that people have time to go to the bakery.

At the next meeting, Derek Fullerton will be joining them at 9:45 to discuss a regional preparedness program they are rolling out. The new Town Administrator Andy Sheehan will also be there for a welcome coffee following the meeting. Ms. Gannon requested the meeting me on January 27<sup>th</sup> begin at 9am. Members agreed.

**Committee Reports:**

- **Trips:** Ms. Fucarile stated they went to the Haverhill Buttonwood Museum and then over to the Barking Ale House for lunch. The holiday day dinner at Angelicas was very nice as usual. There will be a meeting with Ann for upcoming trips.
- **Activities:** Ms. Fucarile stated that Bingo is well attended and more people seem to be attending. Ms. Fucarile stated they are moving the knitting group to Thursday. Ms. Gannon suggested charging for craft projects in advance to cut down on people not showing up. The fee would cover the people's time, services and supplies they are paying for.

- **Newsletter:** Ms. Gannon stated it is a little behind but it will be back to them by next week.
- **“Friends”:** Ms. Gannon stated the “Friends” will be sponsoring the *Pirates of Penzance* as well as several other things. Details to follow. The “Friends” are paying for the lockboxes and the COA has made arrangements with the Fire Department or others to install them. A reminder was in the Sept/Oct Newsletter.
- **NSES:** Mr. Leary stated he attended the initial meeting and as far as he can see their budget is financially secure. They have taken over the Meals on Wheels program in Peabody and it seems to be going well. They have been able to retain most of the former drivers.
- **Food Pantry:** Mr. Leary stated they have raised close to \$20,000 in kind donations in November and December. The boxes at Market Basket continue to do well. Mr. Leary had a plaque made for Market Basket and had a professional photo taken of the Manager. Mr. Leary is considering increasing the hours of the Food Pantry to service a different group of people.
- **TRIAD:** Ms. Gannon stated they will discuss things with the Sheriff in March.

### New Business

Ms. Gannon stated they have been considering starting a sewing group and she does have funds available to purchase the equipment to accommodate 8 attendees at a time. The members discussed different charities they could make items for as well as being able to hem and mend clothing. It is currently thought that it will be offered on Thursdays alternating with the knitting group.

### Minutes

**MOTION:** Mr. Leary moved to approve the November 25, 2015 Minutes.  
 Second by Ms. Carr.  
 All in favor.

Mr. Leary moved to adjourn the meeting at **10:18 am**. Second by Ms. Fucarile. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

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Leanna Harris, Recording Secretary

**NOTE:**

The next scheduled meeting on  
Wednesday, January 27, 2016 will  
begin at **9:00 am.**