

COUNCIL ON AGING
February 24, 2016 at 9:15 am
Middleton Senior Center

Members Present: Barbara Tilton, Barbara Sanborn, Martha Fucarile, Frank Leary, Leah Magnifico; Kay Martinuk, Susan McNeil, alt.

Others Present: Susan Gannon, Executive Director
Alice Tierney, Friends
Leanna Harris, Recording Secretary

Absent: Joan Shea-Desmond, William Walczak, Carol Carr

Ms. Tilton called the meeting to order at **9:13 am**.

Minutes

MOTION: Mr. Leary moved to approve the Minutes from the January 27, 2016 meeting. Second by Ms. Sanborn.

Abstain: Ms. Martinuk

All in favor.

Motion carried.

Director's Report

Ms. Gannon incorporated her report in with "New Business" below.

Committee Reports

- **Trips:** Ms. Fucarile stated on March 13th they are going to see a show at Merrimack College. Ms. Tilton stated Masco will be having their buffet again in March and are accepting registrations.
- **Activities:** Ms. Fucarile stated the lunch bunch is doing very well and they have a full van now. They recently went to Stephanie's Pancake House and it was lovely. Ms. Tilton stated there has been discussion among some regular attendees about also have the lunch bunch get together when a month has three Tuesdays. Ms. Gannon stated a third lunch on those four months is not in the budget. Ms. Tilton would like to suggest if they want to do that they would do it privately due to the van availability. Ms. Fucarile stated knitting is back and doing well and now there is also a sewing class on the opposite weeks.

"Friends": Alice stated the Friends are continuing to offer lockboxes to seniors who would like them. The Friends are also paying for the intercom portion of the security system once the Senior Center receives it. The fundraiser mailing will be done the week of June 1st.

New Business

Ms. Gannon stated Pat has come up with the wonderful idea of a fashion show and she is suggested people go through their closets so they can put together a show that carries through the decades as well as incorporate the clothing the four sewing students are making.

Ms. Gannon stated that Ethel Marino has offered her home and lovely grounds to host another even.

Ms. Gannon stated there are two Masco students committed to completing their internship at the Senior Center, beginning April 25th. They will be able to assist with smart phones, laptops, tablets, etc. There is a third student from another school that will hopefully start next week. They would like everyone to have ICE on their phone for emergencies.

Ms. Gannon submitted the capital budget yesterday. They are still working on the front door dating back to 2013. There is a warrant article for \$125,000. The Historical Commission wants historically accurate doors. The Town has contracted with an architectural firm to begin the work and everything will be ADA compliant. There will be new doors and less steep steps but there has to be adequate space for fire trucks to maneuver their equipment in so both the State and Federal government are involved. If the warrant is approved, there will be several months of construction in the good weather. They will need to get a Variance to have wood railings.

For 2018 Ms. Gannon has asked to replace the landscaping. The Hibiscus will need to be moved during the construction and so she is looking for a place in Town to relocate them to. The hardwood flooring also needs to be redone as it is down to the bare wood. The 2007 van they have has almost 70,000 hard miles on it and so she wants to apply for a grant for a new van. She has asked for \$29,000 set aside (20%). She has requested the same safety features that are on the current van be installed. The 2007 van would be kept and used as a back-up. It won't have any value with that much mileage on it but it will be good to have two smaller vans. They have a contract with Ray's, where they can park the van there for \$2/day. The larger van only has 5,000 miles on it.

For 2019 Ms. Gannon is requesting \$3,000 to repair the back patio. It's starting to sink in some places and is creating tripping hazards. Every year she puts in to have the interior of the building repainted but it's never granted. A professional painter would be needed with scaffolding to reach some of the areas.

For 2020 Ms. Gannon would like to continue with the kitchen repairs. A counter will need to be replaced to be ADA complaint and also the electric stove will also need to be replaced. Three toilets were replaced due to their high water use and they had to be special ordered since they are also ADA compliant.

The capital budget goes from 2017 through 2021. The Finance Committee is meeting in March. Ms. Gannon will give the COA members copies of what she is submitting once it is reviewed by both the Board of Selectmen and the Finance Committee.

Ms. Gannon noted they cannot operate on municipal funding alone. Money that used to be donated to the Senior Center is now going to the Food Pantry. Ms Gannon is not permitted to ask for donations. The Friends gives the Senior Center thousands of dollars in support each year.

Ms. Gannon stated the exercise programs have been opened up to other towns for no additional charge. They aren't making enough on the exercise programs to break even so they increased the fee \$5.

Ms. Gannon encouraged the members to go to Town meeting and stated their votes are really important.

Adjournment

MOTION: Mr. Leary moved to adjourn the meeting at **10:35 am**. Second by Ms. Martinuk. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Leanna Harris, Recording Secretary