

COUNCIL ON AGING
March 30, 2016 at 9:15 am
Middleton Senior Center

Members Present: Dr. Joan Shea-Desmond, Barbara Sanborn, Kay Martinuk, Barbara Tilton, Martha Fucarile, Leah Magnifico, Frank Leary, Susan McNeil, alt.

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

Absent: William Walczak, Carol Carr

Dr. Shea-Desmond called the meeting to order at **9:14 am**.

Minutes

MOTION: Ms. Sanborn moved to approve the Minutes from the February 24, 2016 meeting. Second by Ms. Magnifico.
All in favor.
Motion carried.

Chairperson's Report

Dr. Shea-Desmond stated since she has been out of town, she doesn't have anything to report.

Committee Reports:

- **Trips:** Sunday, April 1st the Sound of Music with Andy. There are a lot trips coming up, Lynnfield Market Street, Strawberry Festival, Jazz cruise, etc. Ms. Tilton stated the lunch bunch went to the Century House and it was lovely. Ms. Tilton had the opportunity to talk to the lunch bunch regarding going to lunch on the 5th Tuesday.
- **Activities:** Ms. Fucarile stated BINGO is still very popular and they are alternating sewing and knitting on Thursdays. Some new knitters have started. They are currently working on making quilts for the rehab at Beverly Hospital. Ms. Gannon asked what sizes they were looking for and Ms. Tilton responded that 34" x 45" long is a popular size. Ms. Gannon stated they have a tax exempt card with Joanns and so she will get a check to purchase a gift card there. Ms. Gannon suggested teaching Holly, the intern how to make the quilts so she can help.
- **Newsletter:** Ms. Gannon stated there were several trips that didn't make it into the March/April Newsletter and so there is as supplemental newsletter coming out in April. They are running waiting lists on just about every event and they will be using the larger van much more. People have already asked about Thanksgiving and the holiday. Ms. Gannon is going to create a form for different groups and someone from each group can list the people attending at a particular table and they will collect the money. It's looking

like the meal will be \$22 per person. They are considering a harpist (\$450) for quiet entertainment. The Mansfield Fund will pay the cost of the meals for the first 175 people. Guests will be charged \$12 per person to put towards the meal and door prizes. They are not doing raffles. There may be some other business that will offset the cost. This year they would like to have the bar in the same room since last year people didn't like having to leave the room to go to the bar area. Per Angelica's, they will not open the doors until 11:30 a.m. to alleviate the issues they had last year and the Senior Center is also going to make table assignments and stagger seating times so they will be able to tell each table what time they will be seated.

- **"Friends"**: The Friends are waiting to hear from Ms. Gannon for when they need to get an electrician for the door buzzer and the Friends will pay for that. Ms. Tierney stated she will discuss subsidizing some of the tickets at the Monday meeting.
- **NSES**: Dr. Shea-Desmond stated there was a NSES meeting last Thursday but she was unable to attend but that she does have the information from the meeting and stated there were lots of new hires and financially they are doing ok. The 40th Gala fundraiser will be the end of April. Ms. Gannon stated she has a \$200 line item in the budget to put towards tickets if the members would like to put that money towards people going to represent the Council on Aging. The members were in agreement to put the \$200 towards tickets for Dr. Shea-Desmond, Ms. Martinuk and Mr. Leary to attend the gala.

MOTION: Ms. Tilton moved to use the line item towards tickets for members who are attending to offset the ticket price for NSES gala. Second by Ms. Martinuk. All in favor.
Motion carries.

Ms. Gannon stated she will call and make the reservation for Mr. Leary, Dr. Shea-Desmond and Ms. Martinuk.

- **TRIAD**: Ms. Martinuk stated she is definitely going to call them and she is going to review the Danvers newsletter to see their TRIAD activities. Ms Gannon stated the date of the annual September picnic has been set and they would like to book them for the ID badges. The ID badges can be used in place of a driver's license for banks, airline tickets, etc. They are issued by the State and they do expire.
- **Food Pantry**: Mr. Leary stated the food pantry is having a problem with some of the patrons not cooperating and so they have started giving out numbers and calling numbers to let people in. Mr. Leary stated the Food pantry provided an Easter dinner with pork loin, potatoes, cans of green beans, corn and, soup, and also a chocolate cream pie. Mr. Leary spoke very highly of David's family who was there to help with the Easter dinner supplies provided to families.

Director's Report

Ms. Gannon stated the information she has falls under New Business below.

New Business: Ms. Gannon stated there was a public hearing last Thursday. Masco and Essex Tech have a higher percentage of Middleton students so it has pushed Middleton's percentage up. Between the two schools there is over \$600,000 that the Town has to come up with. They have been cutting capital programs, between police and fire there was almost \$500,000 in equipment and training, now they will only receive the necessities. The fire department will be short a firefighter. The work planned for Memorial Hall will not be done. The operating budget has not been affected. The Senior Center cannot operate on funding from the municipal budget alone and Ms. Gannon routinely goes after grant money. The grants may not always be available and so Ms. Gannon needs to keep that in mind each year. The Town only provides 70% of their funding. Mr. Leary stated he doesn't think they are isolated in their financial management, it seems to be universal. Ms. Gannon stated the Coffee Café receives about \$25/mth for coffee. Other Senior Centers charge for morning coffee and pastries. Ms. Gannon stated the Food Pantry also donates various food items to the Senior Center.

Ms. Gannon stated she has been trying to get Ms. Tierney to join the Board and has presented a letter of interest for Ms. Tierney to join the Board.

MOTION: Mr. Leary moved to send a letter to interest to Alice Tierney to join the Board. Second by Ms. Tilton.

All in favor.

Motion carries.

Ms. Gannon suggested for the nice weather having the meetings begin at 10:15 so they can then have a patio lunch.

Ms. Gannon stated they are trying to facilitate a relationship with veterans to come to the Senior Center. There will also be field trips coordinated by Patrick that would be appeal to veterans and their spouses. There will be events in the fall to honor veterans. At one of the veteran events, there will be three paneled presentation boards to display memorabilia. The movie they did with Veteran Ebbe Weinerberg may be running in the background. People really enjoyed the veterans event they had at the American Legion and they have already booked the Legion for a similar event this year. Ms. Tierney added that the Friends will be paying for the singing Trooper at the American Legion.

Adjournment

MOTION: Mr. Leary moved to adjourn the meeting at **10:15 am.**

Second by Ms. Fucarile.

All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Leanna Harris, Recording Secretary