

Concord Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes  
February 4, 2019

Attendees: Michael Rudd, Milton Cohen, Kristin Nelson, Christina Kendrick, Patty Keane, Carole Cushing, Ann Schummers, Ginger Quarles, Carol Ann Hannan, Arthur Alcaez, Margaret Hoag (MSS liaison member), and Linda Escobedo (liaison from the Select Board)

Absent: Sharyn Lenhart

The meeting was called to order at 5:30pm

The minutes were duly approved as written.

Minuteman Senior Services Report:

Margaret Hoag reported that at the January meeting of the Board the auditors presented a clean audit. The fundraising and the auction were the highest in recent years. Margaret also reported that Minuteman has a giving tree through the Yankee Crafter in Lexington which helps many people in Lexington.

Housing Committee Report:

Patty Keane reported that she attended the January meeting of the housing committee. There are two positions coming open on the Committee. These positions are nominated at the Town Caucus. The Gerow land is a possible building site for a small house. Also the committee is looking into selling some older HUD properties and build newer affordable homes. There is still a waiting list for senior housing.

Disability Commission Report:

Arthur Alcaez reported on the January meeting. No resolution yet for the ramp at 55 Church Street which is awkward to use. The commission is investigating possible solutions. They are also looking at Graem Nuts on Main Street and Concord Market after accessibility complaints. The Graem Nuts does have a handicap entrance but it had been blocked by boxes. Acton is looking into an adaptable bike share program for the new rail trail.

Concord after 60:

Ann Schummers reported that there was no January meeting due to bad weather and the February meeting is on hearing loss. Working on getting a program on helping in a pinch in place.

New Business:

Michael reported that we have an opening for an associate member. Next year we may have slots open for two full members. We discussed moving the meeting date and decided to wait until next month when Sharyn will be attending the meeting for her comments.

Linda Escobedo reported from the Board of Selectmen that there are several articles concerning affordable housing on the Town Meeting warrant. Also the Assisted Living facility near the prison has not yet secured the funding it needs. We will not know until June if it will receive the funding it has requested.

Director's Report:

- Ginger reported that the Program Supervisor has been promoted to Assistant Director. This reflects an increase in responsibilities. The Receptionist position has been upgraded to Clerk which also reflects a higher level of responsibility. The Director's position changed classification as well. Ginger is appreciative that the town acknowledges the value of the COA. This helps other towns to recognize the value of the COA. The Board expressed how much they appreciate the staff of the COA.
- The Aging Mastery program will be offered again beginning in April. This program is led by the COA nurse and covers aspects of aging such as sleep, finances, exercise with many guest speakers
- The COA has not received many gifts as a result of our donation article in the newsletter. People often give gifts expressing gratitude for the COA's work
- The AARP survey results have been tabulated and will be available on February 5th.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:20pm.

Next Meeting: March 4 will start at 5:00pm to allow extra time to review the budget. Members should bring snacks if they wish.