

Concord Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes
April 1, 2019

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

Absent: Sharyn Lenhart and Linda Escobedo (liaison from the Select Board)

The meeting was called to order at 5:05 pm

The February meeting minutes were duly approved as written.

Minuteman Senior Services Report:

No report

Housing Committee Report:

Patty Keane introduced the 4 articles regarding affordable housing that will be discussed at Town Meeting and Ginger distributed flyers providing background about each. Patty also noted that Marianne Nelson will be retiring in a year. Patty will attend the April meeting but will be unable to go to the May Housing Authority meeting. Christina will go in her place.

Kristin noted that the Planning Board is considering changing zoning laws to address housing concerns.

Disability Commission Report:

Arthur Alcaez reported on the March 14th meeting. They have recruited new members and have almost a full committee. They are still considering accessibility concerns regarding the entrance of 55 Church Street and Café Nero. The committee has funds for lock boxes for residents with disabilities and is working on a program for distribution. Still working on a plan for the adaptive bike program.

Concord after 60:

Ann Schummers reported that the February meeting on audiology was well received. The group is working on establishing a program to encourage people to ask for help and to help one another. Looking for new ideas and speakers. Next meeting will be April 28th, 3:00-5:00 pm for a social gathering at a private home.

New Business:

Improvements have been proposed for the Middle School. The town has been turned down for State funding. Plans for a feasibility study will be discussed at the town meeting.

Board Membership - the terms for four members end this year and they are eligible for a second term. Michael, Carol and Patty would like to be reappointed for a second three-year term. As Sharyn did not attend the meeting, Michael will ask her whether she would like to continue as well. We also have an available slot for another Associate Member.

There have been 50 applicants for the Town Manager position. The town plans to interview the 3 finalists in a public forum at the end of April.

The group discussed considering changing the meeting to the 3rd Monday of the month. All present were in favor of the change. Michael will ask Sharyn if this change is good for her as well.

Director's Report:

- There is Board training in Lincoln on May 24th, 9:00-noon.
- Ginger reviewed the budget. Some positions are funded by the town, some are funded by the State formula grant, private grants or bequests. Big increases in postage and paper products (because of the ban on styrene).
- The Friends of the Aging will have a Spring event in May.
- Ginger, and the Deputy Town Manager, Kate Hodges, met with the Friends President Julie Dolan and the Vice President Mike Benn. The Friends are hoping to work more closely with the COA in the future. They will take a tour of the COA and perhaps invite Ginger and Kate to one of their board meetings.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.

Next meeting will be on May 6th unless rescheduled.