

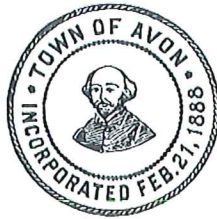
Town of Avon Massachusetts

COUNCIL ON AGING

Director

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COUNCIL ON AGING

Board Members

Karen Johnson, Chair
Deborah Greene, Vice Chair
Linda Chute, Secretary
Jean Kopke, Treasurer
Sonny Mercuri, Member
Ed Selman, Member
Joanne Grenham, Member

Council on Aging Minutes August 18, 2017 10:00 am

Present: Karen Johnson, Deb Greene, Joanne Grenham, Linda Chute and Gene Mazzella
COA Director. Absent: Ed Selmen, Jean Kopke and Sonny Mercuri

Minutes:

Voted to approve minutes of July 21, 2017 with corrections and deletions.

Old Business:

Commercial Dishwasher

The dishwasher is in and operational. Peg Mennino's family donated money towards a new kitchen appliance. She will be acknowledged in the October newsletter that is expected to go out in the MoneySaver.

Food Safety Trainings

Choke Saver Trainings are complete with all COA staff certified now. An on-line Food Handling course is available for \$45/person that must be paid with a credit card. All kitchen staff and a few COA staff will be trained as backup. A few people from the Board are also interested in taking the class. The Board of Health requires all folks handling food in the kitchen to be certified. There is money in the budget for training. Karen thought the union contract provides \$200 towards education for a union person if our Admin Assist is included as a back-up.

BAT Contract & Updates

A new passenger van will be ours soon. A lease has been sent over for legal review and Selectmen signature. There was some discussion on keeping the older van, so there will always be a back up. However, that may not be an option if the new van is considered a "replacement." Gene will look into what other towns van driver rates and ride share costs are compared to ours and report back in September in preparation for a discussion with the Board of Selectmen.

TOWN OF AVON
2017 OCT 13 AM 8:42
TOWN CLERK

New Business:

Senior Suggestions

Seniors suggestions included a request for an Antiques dealer show. Trudell's on Rt. 37 in Holbrook was suggested as a business that does these kinds of programs. Karen suggested the Friends of the Library could co-sponsor and join in. Karen will check with Trudell's.

Directors Report

Alleyway Doors: Some of the metal exit door frames are rotting and compressing the doors. At least one door at the COA and one at the Civic Center cannot be opened easily. This is a safety issues with the seniors not being able to easily open the doors in case of an emergency. Gene will contact Fire Chief Bob Spurr to come and take a look and is working with the Town Administrator's office to work up a plan to have these fixed.

Library Program: The COA Library program is moving forward. A volunteer is being trained to help seniors place a book on hold from the COA. These books can be picked up at the COA or at the library. The Van is able to bring anyone to the library to pick up books if they like. Having the van or volunteers assist with homebound seniors receiving and returning books was also discussed.

Lunch on Wednesday: Gene reported he would like to begin providing lunch on Wednesday starting in late September for a trial period. He believes the meal can be offered within the current staffing budget. The Board voted to support the trial and start it on September 20th.
Parking Lot Issues: Gene will follow up with Bill Fitzgerald regarding adding a cut in the sidewalk and hand rail email that was sent a few weeks back and try to get a sense on when the project will begin.

Staffing: There has been no movement on the Outreach Position increase to a full time job since it was approved at the last Town Meeting. This is a new position and will require posting and interviews which will add to our time line of moving forward. The position is important to expand our ability to help seniors. The current 19 hour per week position is not able to keep up with the need. The Board agreed to write a letter to the Board of Selectmen if there has been no encouraging news by the Sept. COA meeting.

Change of Hours Letter: Gene reported that he and Karen are drafting the support letter from the board to match COA hours to town. The Board supports the change for safety and program reasons. Working longer hours on Thursday night as the town hall currently does would not be a problem. There is a group that meets on Thursday nights. This would also be an opportunity for the COA to have a class or run a movie night. A change may be a union negotiation issue. Gene is going to check on the contract for the Administrative Assistant to help advise how to craft the letter.

Other Business:

Tank Cover: Deb noticed the restroom in the back office needs the lid on the toilet tank replaced. Deb and Gene took measurements and she will assist with research on finding a replacement.

Hope Groups use of COA: Karen asked if the Hope Groups that currently meets once a month at the COA could use the room for a workshop for other clinicians. The Outreach Coord. could also attend the workshop. Working within the current expectations from the Town Administrator's office Gene feels we can accommodate if a COA staff or board member is present. He will check the schedule and coordinate with the Karen, the outreach worker and the Hope Group on scheduling.

The next meeting is scheduled for Sept. 22nd at 10:00 am.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20.

Approved on:

9/22/18

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Chute

Linda Chute, Secretary