

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 October 13, 2017 10:00 am

Meeting held at Avon Council on Aging building – 65 East Main Street, Avon, MA 02322

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

Minutes:

Motion was made and carried to accept COA Board minutes of September 22, 2017 with spelling corrections noted.

Old Business:

Lunch on Wednesdays - update

Lunch is being served on Wednesdays with a small group attending. It will continue until the end of December to see if attendance increases and if it's worth continuing.

Parking Lot Potholes - update

The potholes in the parking lot have been repaired by DPW per our request. Next year we will make the request in the Spring as needed following winter plowing.

New COA Van - update

No official word on when it will arrive. There are minor adjustments to be made to the contract. Once the contract is signed we can move forward with registration, insurance, training then delivery to Avon.

Outreach Position - update

The position is moving forward with legal and the Board of Selectman. We expect to have it completed before the next meeting.

TOWN OF AVON
2017 DEC-7 7:13
TOWN CLERK

Van and Kitchen Staff Compensation Letter - draft review

The Board reviewed and voted on a letter to the Board of Selectmen, with a copy to Town Administrator Frank Crimmins, requesting a review of van and kitchen staff pay rates.

William Salter asked for an update on the issue and was informed that a letter was being signed today and will be sent over to the Board of Selectmen.

Gene M. and Jean K. will do research on last set of approved rates and bylaws to change.

Change of COA Hours Letter - draft review

The Board reviewed and voted on a letter to the Board of Selectmen, with a copy to Town Administrator Frank Crimmins, requesting a change of COA hours of operation to mirror Town Hall.

Fellowship Circle Outreach and Monthly Meal - update

Gene and Louise will work on a survey for Fellowship Circle seniors to see if there is interest in having a lunch served there. Once the Outreach Position is full time it is the goal to hold outreach hours at Fellowship Circle.

New Business:

Director's Report

State Formula Grant: Elder Affairs has asked for COAs to prepare the FY18 budget and formula rates would be released soon. A balance statement from FY17 funds showing \$167.44 of unused funds due to an accounting error was sent in to Elder Affairs. Avon receives about \$10,000 from this grant with approximately 90% going toward the volunteer coordinator staff time. Gene expects this budget to be due before the next COA Board meeting and will work it out with Karen then present at the next meeting.

Suggestions from Suggestion Box: There were no suggestions from the suggestion box this month.

Avon Library: A volunteer is ready to start using a lap top to hold books at the library for any seniors that would like them.

Newsletter in MoneySaver: There have been favorable calls about the newsletter insert. For now printing is being done in house.

Memorial Luncheon Donation: Philip Tortorella made a monetary donation to the COA in memory of his late wife to host a memorial luncheon. Gene will send a gift request to the Board of Selectmen then schedule the luncheon.

Board of Selectmen/Town Administrator: Meeting with Frank C. remains pending. It was suggested to invite Town Administrator Frank Crimmins to the next COA meeting to discuss pending issues if Gene has not been able to meet with him beforehand.

FY19 Budget Discussion

Frank Crimmins has asked for a first draft of the FY19 budget by October 31st. Preparations for the budget hinge in part on monies spent to date in FY18 and the COA is working with the Town Accountant to confirm all accounts.

If a draft budget is generated and reviewed with Frank C. before this Board meets again then amendments will be allowed.

Other Business:

Antique Appraisals at COA

Karen connected with Campellos who is willing to come out. Gene will follow-up to get details and schedule on a Tues or Thursday if possible.

Arts and Crafts Sponsored by Friends of the Library

Karen and Linda offered to run a November and December free Arts and Crafts workshop sponsored by the Friends of the Avon Library. Gene will connect with Linda and Karen on scheduling.

Tax Classification Hearing

The pending Tax Classification Hearing has many seniors worried about increased taxes. Bruce Lane has addressed the seniors as a member of the Board of Assessors and has encouraged the seniors to attend the meeting or send in written communication to ask the Selectmen not to increase their share over the commercial portion.

Gene advised that action around this issue is beyond the scope of his expected duties but if the COA Board or members as private citizens were inclined to help the seniors generate a voice for the meeting they may consider creating a document for homeowners to sign.

A motion to adjourn was made by Deb Greene and seconded by Jean Kopke. The meeting was adjourned at 12:08.

The next meeting is scheduled for Friday, November 17, 2017 at 10:00.

Documents and Exhibits: COA Hours of Operation Change Request Draft Letter, Van Drivers and Kitchen Staff Rates Review Draft Letter, COA list for BOS/TA, September Board of Selectmen COA Report, Director's Report Notes

Approved on: 12/1/17

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Chute 12/1/17
Linda Chute, Secretary