

Newton Council on Aging and Advisory Board Meeting
Tuesday, May 24, 2016
Newton Senior Center
345 Walnut Street. Newtonville MA 02460

Present: J-E Heffron, CA Shea, E. Lorant, N. Scammon, D. Murphy, T. Shoemaker, E. Picard, J.Picard, C. Rose, D. Sostek, A. Hoffman, C. Gibson, B. Dugan, M. Knapp

Staff: J. Colino

Guests: E. Watkins, K. Sisson,

Notified: N. Krasner, N. Brown, A. Cooper, S. Paley, E. Rosenbaum, H. Gunner, J. Norstrand

1. Welcome/Call to Order/Approval of Minutes/Introductions

Minutes approved.

Two guests and COA/AB members introduced themselves.

A recommendation was made for people to visit the Allen House in West Newton. A get well card for Howard Heywood was circulated:

2. Chair and Director's Report

- Age-friendly Update

A number of people from a large variety of groups attended the last two meetings to share what they are doing related to planning for Newton as an age-friendly/livable community. Attendees at these meetings appreciated hearing about everything that is going on. Newton now has the World Health Organization/AARP designation as an age-friendly/livable city. We are learning about how different groups are approaching their own initiatives. We are viewing Different models that have similar characteristics such as Complete Streets and how they fit with Age-friendly.

Staffing will be focused on the A-f/L initiative. New positions will be funded by the state formula grant: We are currently advertising for two positions one as a marketing and outreach person to implement the community engagement for Age-friendly/Livable Newton; the other position is for a volunteer coordinator. They will work closely together.

Information about A-F/L Newton will be communicated at the three programs at the library in the fall. The first session will be kicking off the community engagement part of our process.

We are developing a data collection form to get information on what people/organizations are doing into a data base. Julie Norstrand along with Naomi Krasner and Diane Sostek will work on the data base. Part of the data base will be to understand communication strategies are available and to be able to engage people throughout the city.

-FY 17 budget process. CDBG funds were no longer available to the NDSS but the city increased the NDSS budget by \$20,000.00 to cover a portion of the \$39,500 previously received by CDBG and has committed to cover the additional amount in subsequent fiscal year. Jayne is they only full-time position that is fully covered by the city, the other positions are covered by at least one grant source and city money. This coming FY is the highest percentage relying on the formula grant for funding.

- A presentation of a very beautiful Newton throw was made to Carol Rose who is leaving Newton after 31 years to be an active grandparent along with her husband who retires next month. The throws are sold by the NSC as part of their fundraising.

3. Membership Report

- Everyone on every board or commission in the city needs to completely reapply when their term expires. People need to re-submit their information. Jayne has forwarded the application to all via email. Jayne requested that everyone lets her know when they send in their information before the final meeting next month. She would also appreciate knowing if members will not be reapplying. Letters of interest, applications, and/or resumes should be sent to Amalia Timbers atimbers@newtonma.gov. The Mayor may decide to meet applicants. There are nine commissioner positions and up to twenty advisory board members. The council is recruited from the advisory board, the advisory board is recruited from the outside.

- Slate from Nomination Committee: Only one office can be nominated because only one officer's term hasn't expired- Carol Ann Shea is nominated as Vice President. The COA will vote on the slate at the June meeting. We can vote for the final slate in the first fall meeting after appointments and reappointments are made.

4. Springwell Report

- The Program and Services Committee of Springwell made a change in protective services. A mandated reporter must receive communication from PS, within a prescribed period of time, if the person being interviewed has been screened in. In the past the mandated reporter was only informed if the case was screened out. There is a process that leads to an investigation if necessary. In the past you had to glean

information from omission. Now the assigned worker has to call the mandated reporter and say "I am the assigned worker".

Springwell is working on board recruitment from their catchment. Anyone who cares about elders and is comfortable asking questions as a board member should contact Springwell. They are looking for someone who can serve on their finance committee. They want to meet with candidates before July 22 to have members ready to start in September. Let Jayne or Adele Hoffman know if you're interested or know of someone.

5. No Senior Citizen's Fund report tonight.

6. Working Group Reports:

- the Housing Group has started distributing the Housing Criteria which offers guidelines for people who want to move or stay in their homes; builders; and Decision Makers such as the City Council. 100 have been left at city hall. Different members of the Housing Group will be distributing them.

- Transportation. Jayne will meet with Holly on June 9th to learn about the Transportation Advisory group (TAG) and pass on the information and will look for new representation on the TAG. They meet once a month.

- Engagement. The Masquerade Ball was a special and wonderful event with lots of community support. The 5th Annual Spring Fling was held on May 23rd. There were at least 140 attendees who were beautifully cared for and entertained by All Students Care (ASC) of Newton North.

Old/new business

7. Congratulation to Nancy Scammon who graduated with a Masters in Management of Aging Services from UMASS Boston!

8. Jayne will be the chair of Legislative Chair for Massachusetts Council on Aging. She will keep everyone well informed of the legislative process and goings on.

9. The Newton Department of Health and Human Services has been the lead on the evidence based suicide prevention model QPR. QPR is Question, Persuade, and Refer, from Newton Cares the Coalition for Suicide Prevention and Mental Health. They are looking for people to become train the trainers because the more people who know how to act, the more lives may be saved. It is a simple educational program and Jayne would like to have the senior population represented. The next community training is at the YMCA on May 25 from 5:30-7:30 and includes a light dinner. If you are interested in the training let her know. There are always two trainers working together on a scripted model. Let Jayne know if interested.

End of year meeting will be held Tuesday June 21st at 6:00 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15.

Submitted by Carol Rose