

**Newton Council on Aging and Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Tuesday December 23, 2014 - 7:30 p.m.**  
**Newton Senior Center**  
**345 Walnut Street, Newtonville, MA 02460**

Attendance: H. Gunner, H. Haywood, JE Heffron, M. Knapp, N. Krasner, E. Lorant,  
D. Murphy, E. Picard, J. Picard, D. Sostek, C. Rose, E. Wade,

Staff: J. Colino, Director of Newton Department of Senior Services

All other members notified.

I. Welcome, call to order, minutes approved

II. Holiday Greetings.

III. Chair's/Director's Report:

A. Hiring process:

- Sandy Lopes has been hired and started work as the social service case manager. She has a specialty in housing stabilization.
- A second case manager job has been offered and her specialty area is working with seniors.
- The program coordinator job has also been offered to one of the candidates.  
Hopefully pending jobs will be finalized at the beginning of January.

- The position of Veterans Service Officer is currently in process. Eventually the VSO will have an office hours at the NSC. The city is making veterans aware of the veterans benefit programs.

B. Presentation to members of the Board of Aldermen:

- Jayne Colino and Marian Knapp will present our UMASS, Living and Aging in Newton: Now and in the Future Report to Board of Aldermen from 6:30 – 7:30 on February 2, 2015 in Room 202 (currently room 205). All COA/AB members are strongly urged to come to show support for our mission and goals.

C. Livable-Age-Friendly Newton:

- M. Knapp spoke about the broad view that the NCOA/AB must encourage seniors to speak up about their needs.
- M. Knapp made a presentation concerning promoting Newton as "Age-friendly" using the World Health Organization and "Livable" Community (AARP) models. More detail is available on-line. Newton rates reasonably well for Age-friendliness except for housing.
- M. Knapp made a Power Point presentation: "Newton Department of Senior Services and the Council on Aging- Together!" The presentation's purpose was to

- show how the NDSS & NCOA/AB's strategic plan reflects Age-friendly and Livable community concepts. If a community is good for seniors it is good for everyone.
- A summary of Age-friendly/livable characteristics was circulated.
  - We are focusing on Housing, Transportation, Community Engagement, all key elements of Age-friendly/livable communities
  - The Milken Institute Report mentions Boston and Cambridge as working towards "Livability." We need to understand the Milken report better.
  - Boston has hired a fulltime Age-friendly community coordinator.
  - We are in a position to lead an effort towards making Newton a Livable/Age-friendly community. We can begin by gathering key community individuals and organizations who participated in our earlier Livable Newton Community Connections - Across the Generations (LiNCC-AGES). We can work to convene, collaborate, publicize, increase awareness, create interest and ground swell.

#### IV. Working Group/Other Reports:

- A. Housing: In a related effort, the Housing Group has been working to create a document of housing in Newton that may be of interest to seniors. They are working on housing criteria that NCOA/AB would support for future housing development.
- B. Transportation: No Report
- C. Community Engagement:
  - D. Sostek reported on a luncheon at the Newton North High School Tigers Loft
  - JE Heffron has been working with one individual in successful 1:1 telephone assurance visits and has now begun face-to-face visiting.
- D. Springwell: No Report

#### V. Administrative Report:

- A. NCOA/AB Administration:
  - Naomi Krasner is putting together bios of all new NCOA/AB members.

#### VI. Old/New Business:

- Ceramics exhibit at the Newton Free Library
- QPR training on January 27<sup>th</sup> Scandinavian Living Center 9-11
- J. Colino said how much she appreciates everything that everyone has done, including the conversations that members have in the community that honor the NDSS/NCOA-AB viewpoints and efforts.

Submitted by Carol Rose, Secretary