

Newton Council on Aging and Advisory Board Minutes  
Tuesday, June 18, 2013  
The Newton Senior Center  
345 Walnut St Newton, MA

The end of the year Council on Aging meeting included a dinner and began promptly at 6:00 p.m. at the Newton Senior Center, 345 Walnut Street, Newtonville, MA 02460.

**Commissioners Present:** Audrey Cooper, Marian Knapp, Susan Paley

**Commissioners Absent and Notified:** Nancy Brown, Howard Haywood

**Advisory Council Members Present:** Mary Claflin, Shirley Farnham, Judy Fischbach, Louise Hauser, Ellen Krasney, Norman Hartstone, Adele Hoffman, Eric Rosenbaum, Nancy Scammon, Carol Ann Shea, Thomas K. Shoemaker, Diane Sostek, Carol Rose, Dena Salzberg, Jeanne Stolbach

**Advisory Board Absent and Notified:** Jo-Edith Hefron, Holly Gunner, Ernest Picard, Joyce Picard, Ruth Sherman

**Staff Present:** Jayne Colino, Newton Director of Senior Services

**Guest:** Louise Hauser

I. Dinner and socializing/networking began at 6:00. At 7:25 Marian welcomed everyone and presented the minutes of the May 28 meeting which were reviewed and accepted.

II. The nominated slate of COA commissioners passed unanimously: Vice Chair- Susan Paley; Treasurer- Nancy Brown; Secretary- Carol Rose. New commissioners pending approval are Diane Sostek, Carol Ann Shea, Holly Gunner, and Carol Rose. There are 5 vacancies on the advisory board and we are trying to fill them with citizens who have the skills to help us carry out the strategic plan. The process is for interested individuals to submit a resume for consideration to the Mayor's Office and to attend two meetings of the COA prior to forwarding any recommendation for appointment to the Mayor.

III. Year in review ( see attached PDF of Power Point presentation): Accomplishments

A. Strategic Plan: Mission, Vision, Strategic Goals

Mission: Optimize quality of life for seniors and families.

Vision: Provide sustained leadership to ensure that Newton is livable and age-friendly.

Strategic Goals:

- Department of Senior Services to become financially stable
- Population survey of needs, skills, and diversity
- Advocate (like with the TAG representation and on other relevant city committee)
- Partnerships
- Awareness
- Access to resources
- Marketing and communication
- Programs and services

B. Working Teams (NCOA and staff)

- Housing
- Transportation/Mobility
- Awareness and Engagement
- Neighborhood Engagement

C. Financial Sustainability

- Sustained municipal funding
  - Increase in state formula
  - Grant funding
  - Increase in transportation funding to village centers
  - In-kind program service support through partnerships

D. Partnerships: Area Councils: Beautiful Newtonville, Lower Falls, Highlands Historic Newton, NFL, Springwell, Police and Fire Depts., Health and Human Services, Newton Free Library, NNHS-ASC, Parks and Recreation, New Art Center, Alzheimer's Association, SHINE, SOAR

E. Community Awareness: improved newsletter, improved website, Facebook page, TAB articles, Mass. Gerontological Association, neighborhood groups, staff presentations, TAG involvement, NewTV appearances

F. Access to Resources: Transportation (increased destinations), newsletter, website, increased submission to TAB calendar, retraining of receptionists, revised NDSS brochure

G. Population Needs and Assets: Qualitative (UMASS assessment, survey and focus groups); Quantitative (city census data, consultant); Diversity (LGBT Aging Project)

H. Advocate for seniors and families: TAG, Housing group, met with mayor, attended alderman budget hearing, increased state funding

IV. Other Business:

- A. The Senior Center will pursue accreditation this year. The strategic plan is part of the re-accreditation.
- B. Jackson Homestead has given the NSC exhibition space for "Newton Salutes". Jayne is looking for someone to lead this project.
- C. GenSilent showing at NSC 6/19 from 6-8 p.m.
- D. Contact Jayne about walking on the NSC Alzheimer's Team for the 9/29 walk.
- E. Jayne explained the deep industrial cleaning as a result of a series of problems in the building (flood, oil leak, conversion of boiler, etc.
- F. Tom announced a meeting about the Memorial Day Parade, 6/25 at city hall, 7 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Submitted by Carol Rose