

Newton Council on Aging/Advisory Board Meeting - Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, November 27th 2012 - 7:30 p.m.
Newton Senior Center
345 Walnut St, Newtonville, MA 02460

Present: Nancy Brown, Mary Claflin, Shirely Farnham, Judy Fischbach, Norman Hartstone, Rev. Howard Heywood, Adele Hoffman, Marian Knapp, Ellen Krasney, Susan Paley, Joyce Picard, Ernest Picard, Eric Rosenbaum, Carol Ann Shea, Ruth Sherman, Tom Shoemaker, Diane Sostek, Jeanne Stolbach, Jayne Colino(staff)

Notified:, Audrey Cooper, Holly Gunner, Louise Hauser, Jo-Edith Heffron, Carol Rose, Dena Salzberg, Nancy Scammon,

Absent: Kenneth Chang,

Guests: Margaret Leipsitz, Susan Shale from All Students Care

The meeting was called to order by M. Knapp at 7:37 p.m. People were welcomed. There was a correction to the for 10/23/12 meeting minutes. Audrey Cooper's absence was excused at the last meeting. Minutes were accepted as corrected.

I. All Students Care Presentation:

Margaret Leipsitz and Susan Shale members of the board of All Students Care (ASC) provided an overview and history of ASC. ASC was established by a group of parents who recognized that it was difficult for student athletes to be involved in community service projects given the demands of their commitment to sports. ASC brings students together from the entire community. It has grown beyond athletes to include all students who want to work together to help address community needs.

Last year there was a successful collaboration between ASC and the Senior Center that culminated in a Senior Social that offered to 80 seniors a luncheon at NNHS. Students planned the event, served the meal, and shared their talents with the attendees.

The goal this year is to build on last year's success and to work more collaboratively with seniors to plan and participate in the program. The hope is to offer a variety show that includes performances by students and seniors. This will include musical performances, dancing, a group sing-a-long, and tours of the school.

This year's event is scheduled for Saturday April 27th 12-3:30. This year's goal is to reach out more broadly to increase the participation to over 100. The cafeteria can accommodate 200-250.

There is a goal to include a charitable aspect to the event (a food drive to benefit the local food pantries or a penny drive to benefit the Alzheimer's Association are being considered).

The event was underwritten by parents last year with some additional funds coming from bake sales the students held.

Any COA member interested in helping to plan the event is encouraged to attend a meeting being held on 12/8/12. Anyone interested can email Margaret or Susan at margaretleipsitz@rcn.com or theshales@comcast.net

II. Chair's/Director's Report

A. Molly Sass is the newly hired Program Coordinator. She started today. Molly was most recently employed as the Volunteer and Program Coordinator at a Nationally Accredited Senior Center for Hanover Township in Illinois.

B. Follow up on Small group meeting regarding roles, guidelines and responsibilities

- The discussion focused on conflict of interest, ethics, open meeting laws, as well as roles, responsibilities, and procedures for moving forward on actions/tasks/ positions.
- It was agreed that there are some areas that need to be clarified before we can move forward in some areas, but not all. There are some things that are clear that can be initiated. Marian and Jayne will set a meeting the with David Olson, the City Clerk to begin this process.
- It was recognized, during some fact finding efforts, that the COA is not visible on the main city website. It is somewhat visible on the Senior Services website. Efforts will be made to make the COA easier to find.
- It is decided to move forward on tasks/actions that we know we can move forward on.

C. Power Point Presentation- see attached PDF file.

- The goal of the presentation was to provide a framework for any COA member of any other interested party to present recommended topics/tasks/positions/policies for the COA to consider for adoption.
- Anything being recommended for consideration will need to be consistent with the Vision, Mission and strategic goals
- The concept of Joyce's reasonable cost housing proposal was used as an example to see how the framework may work.
- This process would encourage a proposal to be presented; which may require more study of the issue; determination of need(s); which may lead to a need for increased public awareness of the issue; open public discussion at COA board meetings; a vote would ultimately be taken to create a policy or position statement; and then COA members could speak publically on the issue and share the voted COA position.

The goal is to move to action on priority areas.

Staff will be asked to attend the December COA meeting to participate in the brainstorming of actions relevant to the strategic goals.

Adjournment: 9:19 p.m.

Next COA/AB meeting, Tuesday December 18th , 2012 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by Jayne Colino
Acting Secretary