

*Foxboro Council on Aging and Human Services
Board Meeting March 17, 2011*

Present: Chairperson Joanne Pratt, Vice Chairperson Jerry Norwood, Secretary Ann Alibrandi, Director Vicki Lowe, Vivian Pitts, Wendy Haney, Jeanne Bonneau, Colin Haney and HESSCO representative Tenney Nevins

Absent/ Excused: Lloyd Gibbs, Elaine Biggieri and Ed O'Leary Ex-officio

The meeting was called to order at 5:00 pm

Budget Report:

Our spending is on track. Vicki has ordered the new voice mail system as we keep losing messages and are unable to pick message etc.

Kevin had a budget meeting with all of the town employees on Monday. He gave a detailed account of the full financial picture. He needs the selectmen's support of the meals tax, and town meeting, to balance the budget. He will be meeting with the Selectmen on 3/29 to make his final pitch to them. I feel we should all try to attend the meeting to show him our support.

Director / Office Report:

Today Vicki offered the position of Outreach Worker to Ken Levy. We had a huge response to the advertisement for the position. We had a lot of really good candidates. However Ken had the most extensive experience in elder services. (front sheet of resume in folders)

This position is paid through the Formula Grant. From now until June 30th Noreen will be working 5 – 2.5 extra hours and the new outreach worker will work 19 hours per week.

Starting July 1st Noreen will work 35 hours and the Outreach worker will generally work 16 hours per week. There is a small cushion of about 38 Outreach hours that Vicki has in reserve for additional hours during open enrollment periods, etc. when we could benefit from more time.

Noreen is now working one early evening a week, by appointment only, to reach people who are working but need to meet with social services. We have a student at Foxboro High who will be volunteering to man the phones so that Noreen won't be alone in the building.

The town has a new email system. When each department has been transferred to the system there has been corresponding email training for them in the computer lab. We are all now@town.foxborough.ma.us.

The AARP tax people are here and very busy. We have 4 people working with us now. The appointments have been filled up for a while now.

The new senior center project is still underway. We have now decided that the auditorium is a rehabable building and the laundry room is not. Joanne, Dick H., Bill Casbarra and Vicki went through the entire building. There is a municipal parking lot slated to be built on the site, which will be a big savings for our purposes.

Vicki plans to do an analysis of the cost of programs vs. the fees collected. Vicki has decided it would be better to wait until next month to see if the attendance picks up now that the weather is better.

Most programs have had a survey done, the feedback has been very positive.

We have a new MSW student, Jeanine Collins, from Simmons College School of Social Work. She started on Feb. 28 and will be with us until August.

We couldn't do a good part of the work we do without our volunteers. We want to do something very special, by invitation, to some of our big contributors. We will formulate the guest list based on the volunteers who have registered their time in the My Senior Center system. Vicki plans to use some of the donation money we have received to pay for this event.

The St. Patrick's Day Luncheon at Lake View went well. Many thanks to Jeanne for the line dancing it made the party much more fun for everybody.

Human Services report is in the folders for you to read.

Old Business: The trip committee reported that there would be 21 going on the Savannah Trip and 55 going on the Newport Trip

Vicki has emailed Bob Swanson about the status of our request for the handicapped parking. He said they are working on Eastman Ave. right now and once they wrap that up they will be looking to start ours. The list of some suggestions for the parking lot was passed out and these will be looked at again.

New Business: Tenney will be attending training on April 5.

Some inquired why there was not WIFI connection. Vicki stated that they had it in past but Rich Lincoln towns IT department removed it. The town IT department felt there was in danger of compromising the town systems. No report from Friend. Vivian suggested that the Board should be aware of the things that the Friends paid for. There was no Citizens Input

Meeting adjourned at 6:20pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Alibrandi