

Harvard Council on Aging
Board of Directors Meeting
October 20, 2014
Minutes

Present: Sue Guswa, Connie Larrabee, Bruce Dolimount, Hank Fitek, Katie Petrossi,
Fran Nickerson, Carlene Phillips, Deb Thompson
Absent: Pam Frederick
Guest: Claudia Jarratt, FCOA

Minutes: September minutes accepted with amendments.
Following up on a topic in the minutes, Fran and Katie will look into My Senior Center to see how we can separate outreach needs from general services needs to get a more accurate picture of the former.

Treasurer's report: Bruce said that, once again, the report is incomplete because the town has not yet reconciled accounts from last year..

Program Committee: Carlene described the upcoming October 23 evening program, "Aging and Happiness," as the kickoff for this year's theme: Networks for Connecting and Well-being.

Hildreth House building project: Connie reported that Richard Blinn got a new estimate for windows from Littleton Lumber, which is roughly the same as last year's estimate. Lorraine Leonard says we can go out to bid for new windows, but can't separate installation unless town employees do the work. Cal Goldsmith will work on a new concept for parking, but HHIC has no money to pay for an engineered plan. It was noted that both candidates for the Board of Selectmen support Phase I of the building plan. The Phase1 cost estimate (\$1.6 million) includes roughly \$200,000 for Phase II .architectural and engineering fees, which could be reallocated to reduce Phase 1 costs. Connie said the borrowing cost on \$1.6 million would be roughly \$60 on the average tax bill in the first year.

Housing committee: Fran reported that MAHT will bring a proposed plan for the Poor Farm property to the BOS meeting on October 21.

Director's report: Debbie reported that there has been no action on our request for a new MART van. Tim Bragan continues to pursue this. Again this year the Blizzard Bag program will prepare homebound seniors for an emergency situation. Debbie said that the MCOA conference gave her good information and the name of a support person for expanding use of My Senior Center.

Old business: Debbie and Katie reviewed their presentation to the Woman's Club, which they thought was very well received.

Claudia Jarratt reported a profit of \$607 from the FCOA booth at the Columbus Day flea market. It was suggested that next year we have a program on downsizing prior to the flea market.

Claudia reported that she is networking with churches, schools, and media to make November “senior month” in Harvard. FCOA is doing a town-wide mailing as a fundraiser, and members are having a presence at town events.

New business: Sue talked about the Soup for Seniors program and the need to update the COA website. Katie handed out a four-page “COA Quick Fact Sheet” for input from the board. She will incorporate suggestions into a new draft for the November meeting.

Carlene Phillips, recorder