

COA Meeting Minutes

August 13, 2015

Meeting was called to order at 8:00 a.m. by Ann Grecoe.

Attending: M. O'Connor, D. Robb, A. Grecoe, J. Gifun, S. McNeil, K. Devanna, J. Fox, J. Ponti, M. Roli, K. DeBenedictis and Kathy Urquhart, Director of Elder Services.

Minutes for July 9, 2015 were approved.

Director's Report:

- Displayed the new COA website and Board members were pleased.
- Questions about website training for Board members were raised and Kathy offered to organize a session.
- Website highlights: Celebrating Creativity link/ My Active Center allows for on line registration.
- Senior Center Month includes our next Board meeting on Friday, September 25 at 8:00. Breakfast will be available to visitors.
U Mass survey will be reviewed.
Town resources will be explained
A buffet lunch will be available at noon.
Bill Fahey will be present to review the video "The Other Side of Andover".
- Mike Roli raised questions about the recent Townsman survey about the use of the new center and Kathy assured the Board that she and Bill Fahey are coordinating plans for its usage.
- Board members received new business cards.
- New photos of the Board were taken.
- Andover Days are scheduled for Saturday, Sept 12 and the COA has a table. Board members volunteered to help man it. There will be a raffle of local restaurants, \$50 gift cards.
- Roles and Responsibilities: Board members need to review "A Guide for Board Members" which will be reviewed at the Sept. meeting.

New Business

Strategic plan: COA subcommittees need to send the Board Chair status reports on plans as they relate to the strategic plan.

The Tax Relief Subcommittee reviewed its meeting with Erin Riley, legal counsel to Sen. Barbara L'Italien. The next steps of the committee will be determined when written recommendations are received from Ms. Riley. Joe Ponti explained that he and Mike Roli recently met with the Joint State Tax Committee and reviewed the Town Meeting passed tax relief article. The committee will review the presentation and recommend a course of action: approve/ disapprove/recommended amendments.

Other Business

By Laws: Margaret and Ann G to edit the draft of the By Laws and make corrections. Final review at the Sept 25 Board meeting.

Subcommittee Updates:

Tax Relief: Refer to previous discussion

B. L'Italian meeting: Refer to previous discussion

Housing: Joe Ponti, Ann Grecoe and Margaret O'Connor are working with Lisa Schwarz of the Planning Committee to organize a Forum on October 6 at 6:00 in the library to look at senior housing possibilities the downtown district. This event will be publicized to promote attendance. Lisa S. will provide next steps and plans will be finalized. The next meeting of the subcommittee is scheduled for Sept 3 at 8:00 AM.

Transportation: Goals are to examine and determine transportation needs. Possibilities of expansion will be determined as a result. Margaret O'Connor's subcommittee is meeting with Town Planner Paul Matterazzo for added support.

Marketing Outreach: Subcommittee has not met, but plans to support efforts on tax relief and historic district efforts and will organize outreach and publicity to enhance initiatives.

Ann Grecoe reminded the council to register for the MCOA Meeting in October.

Next COA meetings: Sept 25 and October 16.

Meeting adjourned at 9:55

Submitted by:

Ann Grecoe and Ken DeBenedictis