

Council on Aging Meeting
September 4, 2001

Members in Attendance:
Arletta Cioffari - Chairperson
Beverly Guild - Secretary
Joe Bausk
Ron Riggert
Esther Mann
John Rhome
Catherine Kuras

Also Attending:
Ken Clark - "Friends"
Ed Gottmann

The meeting came to order at 7:10 p.m.

The minutes of the August meeting were approved as written.

Director's Report- (written by Ruth Griesel)

- Ruth reported that 250 new names have been added to the mailing list of the Senior Center. This means that there are now 2,000 names on the list.
- Events- the following events are scheduled: AARP Driver Program, Policeman's Picnic, FISH Pancake Breakfast, Soups' On (to introduce the new nurse), Annual Welcome Back Program, Bridges Orientation Program, John Adams Course, and the Jane Austen Course.
- Secretary of Elder Affairs, Lillian Glickman, will be at the Senior Center on November 15th.
- With regard to money from the State for our new sign, Susan Pope reports the budget hasn't yet been approved- so no money will be released until that happens.
- Regarding air conditioning in the kitchen, Taylor HVAC, Inc. of Framingham was asked to look at the job. That company estimates that the job would cost between \$8,000 and \$ 12,000. That's as far as it has gone.

BayPath- Louise O'Conner

- The BayPath Executive Director has been appointed to the Massachusetts Home Care's Executive Committee.
- Christine has also met with Marty Cohen of the Metro West Community Health Care to discuss developing programs with other agencies to serve the needs of frail elders.

- Olmstead Decision: Massachusetts lags behind on meeting terms of this act which states that “the unnecessary segregation of individuals with disabilities may constitute discrimination based on disability”.
- Massachusetts Home Care is encouraging the EOEA to make compliance with this act and the “Equal Choice Bill” mandatory so that elders who wish to stay at home safely may do so.
- The BayPath Board of Directors did not meet in August.

Volunteer Programs- Ed Gottman

- A lot has been going on. The Volunteer Coordinator’s Position was established 3 ½ years ago to help people remain in their homes. This includes the Friendly Visitors Program, Lawn Clean-Up, Senior Shopping Program, and Medical Equipment Loan Closet, In- Home Fix- It Program, and Keep in Touch (K.I.T.).
- Starting in January FISH had a surge of requests, which is still going on. Since February, forty new drivers have been added. The number of drivers is now 115. At the last meeting the stipend for the callers raised from \$50 to \$75 per week.
- The FISH breakfast will be held on September 22nd. People are needed to help with the clean- up.

Intergenerational Update-Report from Ruth Griesel

- On August 28th, Andrea Weaver held a training session for the fourth grade teachers. Every fourth grade class will participate this year.
- Our recruiting efforts continue. The Villagers presentation will be on September 6th. There will be an orientation meeting for interested people on September 17th.
- Training Sessions will be held during the first week in October.

Tax Relief Committee- Ron Riggert

- Ron has been in correspondence with Susan Pope. He will later meet with Judy and Ruth when they return from China.
- We discussed how to inform the elders of this tax relief (tax deferral). It was suggested that we inform the outreach worker and also keep writing about it in the bulletins.

Accreditation-Bausk/Mann

- Ed Ross and Carol Oram have been appointed as Co-Chairs.
- The Manual will be used and several committees will be needed. A member of the COA will be on each committee. The process will begin shortly.

Spirituality/Saging- Kuras/Guild

- A program will be presented on November 8th. Tickets will be \$15, which includes lunch.
- The Friends will be asked to help subsidize the program if necessary. The emphasis will be on “Growing in Later Years.” We hope this will be an on-going program. We will have to see how this is received.

Auditing of Financial Statements- Ron Riggert

- Ruth and Ron met with Joel Aaronson, CPA. There are several ways of going about this. At our level, a full audit is not required. Compilation or a Systems Review would be appropriate for us. A Systems Review would establish a norm here and give us recommendations. Approximately \$1,200 would be the cost for the Review. We think that this would be the right thing to do. Joel Aaronson will give us a proposal. We will then have a discussion on it. It is expected that the Gertrude Pomeroy Trust will absorb the cost.

Friends- Ken Clark

- The Friends did not have a summer meeting.
- It is expected that FISH will ask for a donation at the next meeting (September 13th).
- Clark Taylor will look over the Friends bookkeeping.
- The Strutters will have a show entitled “As Time Goes By” on November 17th /18th. Ken will have the first solo.

New Business- Holiday Crafts Bazaar- Arletta Cioffari

- Do we want to be involved in the Bazaar? Martha Dow and the “craft” people will do quite a bit for the Bazaar. We decided we will help, as in recent years.

The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Beverly B. Guild