

WENHAM COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 10, 2009

Board Members Attending: Roseann Brozenske, Susan Carp, Mary Kelly Luci Lynch, Cil Moscatiello, and Merle Welsh
Associate Member: Nancy Spofford
COA Director: Trudy Reid

Meeting opened at 2:00 by Susan Carp

Minutes of the January and February Meetings were reviewed and approved as submitted.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Meal Program at Enon Village – The Director reported that the first meal program on March 9th was a great success. We were aiming for 15 diners and actually had 22! To help kick off the program Irv Doress came to play the piano for about 30 minutes. Maggie Carney – the Site Coordinator, did a great job making phone calls the week before. She met with SeniorCare's Nutritionist Director for a brief training session on safe food handling, the required paperwork, etc. Maggie reported that she has 20 lunches reserved for the Wednesday and Friday meals this week. Anyone wishing to help during these meals, should plan to arrive at Enon Village around 11 A.M.

SeniorCare, Inc. - SeniorCare hosted a "leadership breakfast" on Monday March 11th at 7:00 A.M. at the Community House. The Director and Susan Carp attended on behalf of the COA Board. This was an interesting and informative format. Someone from each town was invited to speak for about 5 minutes on the wishes and concerns of their seniors. The Town speakers were Mayors, Town Administrators/Selectmen, or COA Board Chairmen. Jeff Chelgren spoke for Wenham. These were followed by Rep. Brad Hill and someone from Sen. Tarr's and Mary Grant's Offices. Lastly, Congressman Tierney spoke, commenting on what had been said. SeniorCare plans to create a report from this meeting and distribute it to the attendees. The Director stated she felt this was a very worthwhile meeting.

Prescription Advantage – From the SeniorCare Breakfast, Rep. Hill learned that not many of the eligible seniors from Hamilton and Wenham have signed up for this program. He suggested having someone from PA be invited to speak to these seniors about this program and hopefully get them to sign up. If this does come about, the Director will work with the Library and the Hamilton COA to host such a program.

WITH – This stands for Wenham, Ipswich, Topsfield and Hamilton Domestic Violence Roundtable. The Director has been invited to attend these monthly meetings. This meeting was run by HAWC. The Group consists of Greater Lynn Senior Services, adjustment counselors from the area schools, clergy, the DA's office among others. One woman from GLSS runs a program specifically for women over 50 who have been

abused. Trudy is not sure what she can bring to this group, aside from being aware that this does happen even in small towns. However, felt it is good to know these people are out there helping the abused of any age.

TRIAD - Triad will be at Enon Village on March 17th with their free programs. This will be just before the St. Patrick's Day lunch. File of Life, Cards, Yellow Dot, Grab and Go Bags will be available, and the Sheriff's Office will be giving out free ID's. 50 people have signed up for the lunch, which will be followed by a Memory Loss Program given by Northeast Health.

History Club - 35 people attended Jack Hauck's talk on the original inhabitants of Wenham. Jack hopes to do another program sometime in April on Pleasant Pond., date to be announced.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Friends - Mary Kelly announced that the next meeting of the Friends Board has been rescheduled until March 12th due to expected bad weather.

The Town quilt is now on the frame, and she reported that everyone is very excited to begin this phase of the project.

The Kite Day program is coming along well. The requested funding has been received and they expect to have enough to do very well.

The Friends Annual meeting is scheduled to follow the June Coffee. They hope to have someone from Gateway Travel as the speaker that morning..

Membership Drive is now in progress and going well.

Movies - Roseann noted that since only one person showed up for the last movie, it was canceled. This month Bridehead Revisited is scheduled to be shown. Looking forward, they are planning on having Australia, which is now on DVD.

Coffees - Cil Moscatiello stated that only 12 people came to the February Coffee, which was disappointing. The April Coffee will feature Jeff Chelgren speaking on the Articles to be voted on at the May Town Meeting. There will be no Coffee on the first Saturday in May due to that meeting. The June coffee will have a speaker from Gateway Travel, and will be followed by the Friend's Annual Meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

The Director reported that she had put together some flowers and citations to deliver to an Enon Village resident who turned 100 last month, however they missed her! These were later delivered, and appreciated.

She also stated that she has not been able to get together with the person who had wished to volunteer as part of the local Tax write-off program. Since this will require some training on her part, this may not be possible at this time.

NEW BUSINESS:

The Director announced that there has been an invitation from the Hamilton COA to attend a Dessert and Coffee morning at the Hamilton COA Center. This is to be an informal affair to discuss mutual interests with local seniors from Ipswich, Essex and Wenham She hopes to be able to attend and urged everyone interested to attend.

North Shore Elder Services is planning a new program called :”At Your Side”, in collaboration with SeniorCare, Inc. and Independent Living Center of the North Shore and Cape Ann. The mission of this program is to help individuals and their families, to better understand and navigate the health care system. Volunteers will be matched with an individual, and will accompany them on medical visits, meet with medical team members etc. to help them understand their illness and help them to make good decisions. Volunteers are provided with on-going training and support. There will be an informational program on Thursday March 19th at the Senior Center at 9:30 A.M. Dr. Jonathan Fine will speak in detail and answer any questions. Anyone interested should plan to attend this meeting.

Meeting Adjourned at 3:07 P.M.

Next Meeting - April 14th at 2:00 P.M.

Lucille Lynch, Secretary