

CITY OF GLOUCESTER
Council of Aging
Minutes of the Meeting
April 2nd, 2019
Rose Baker Senior Center
6 Manuel F. Lewis Street, Gloucester, MA 01930

Board members present: Chairperson: Jay Gustafarro; Vice-Chairperson: Fred Cowan; Selma Bell; Karin Carroll; Valerie Gilman; Susan Goodall; Barry McKay; Bob Quinn and Tony DiAntonio. Senior Center Executive Director: Lucy Sheehan. Absent: Roseanne Cody; and Mike Hale.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Mr. Quinn to approve the Gloucester Council of Aging minutes of the meeting of February 5, 2018. **Seconded** by Mr. McKay.

MOTION by Mr. Quinn to approve the Gloucester Council of Aging minutes of the meeting of March 5, 2018 with correction. **Seconded** by Mr. McKay.

OLD BUSINESS

GENERATOR & PARKING LOT- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that she spoke with Jim Destino and the generator and the parking lot matters are in process, but an exact date is not yet known. *Ms. Gilman* stated that the City Council did approve the parking lot at a Budget and Finance meeting.

VAN- *Ms. Carroll* stated that she has been told unofficially that they will be awarded grant funds to hire COA Van Drive, to exercise or health activities. She stated that it is a regional grant. *Ms. Gilman* stated that Paul Lundberg has been appointed by the Mayor to sit on Charlie Baker's council on regionalization. She stated that she could ask Mr. Lundberg to come to a Council of Aging meeting to speak about regionalization. The board agreed that would be a good idea.

BUDGET- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that she has met with City Administration for the first round of FY20 Budget meetings. She stated that, although it was mandated that a level funded budget request be submitted, she added two new and important positions, one being an Activity Coordinator and the second, funds to hire van drivers.

BOCCE- *Ms. Sheehan* stated that the bocce group is going very well, they have about 15 people that have shown an interest and attended Bocce meetings. She stated that one person has volunteered to help teach bocce for new players, and still looking another person. She stated that bocce playing will begin May 2, 2019. *Ms. Gilman* stated that the tennis courts will be under construction during April and May.

SENIORCARE- *Scott Trenti*, Executive Director of Senior Care and *Linnea Hagberg*, Director of Community Programs and Planner of Senior Care appeared before the board. *Mr. Trenti* thanked board members for inviting them to the meeting. *Ms. Hagberg* gave board members a brief overview of the new program “Age and Dementia Friendly Cape Ann”. She stated that goal of the program is to take intentional steps to create a supportive, welcoming environment where all residents, regardless of age, gender, ethnicity, health status, or socio-economic background can thrive. *Ms. Gilman* stated that the Mayor is bringing back a human rights commission. She stated that she is bringing forth a disability commission. She stated that it would be great if these groups could collaborate.

Mr. Trenti stated that they are looking forward to the summit and they could bus some seniors to the Elks if they are interested in attending.

Chairperson Gustafarro asked about seniors with early onset dementia. *Mr. Trenti* responded that they are eligible for State home healthcare program just like a person over the age of 60.

The board thanked Mr. Trenti and Ms. Hagberg for their presentation.

MEALS PROGRAM- *Mr. Cowan* stated that starting July 1st, the salad bar will be available Monday through Friday at the Senior Center regardless of age for free. He stated that Senior Care has relinquished their day-to-day meals of the lunch program as of July 1st by contracting with the Open Door Food Pantry. He stated that Open Door will use the Senior Center kitchen to cook the meals on site. The board discussed the allocation of space at the Senior Center.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no “New Business”.

CONCERNS OF BOARD MEMBERS

COA MEETING- The next Council of Aging will be at 9:30 a.m. on May 7, 2019.

MOTION by Mr. McKay to adjourn.
Seconded by Ms. Goodall. **CARRIED.**
Meeting Adjourned – 10:30 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Orlando

Accepted by

Jay Gustafarro Chairperson