

## **HANOVER COUNCIL ON AGING**

### **Minutes of the Regular COA Board Meeting, January 14, 2019**

The Regular Meeting of the Hanover C.O.A. Advisory Board was held on Monday January 14, 2019, at the Hanover Senior Center. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Dick Farwell at 9:00 AM. All members were present: Dick Farwell, Les Molyneaux, Carol Mattes, Claire Flynn, Don Buckley & Ellie Kimball; and Roger Leslie. Additional attendees were Director Tammy Murray Jen Dunn,.

The minutes from the December 10, 2018 regular meeting were accepted with one correction.

Chairman Farwell asked to have Tammy discuss the Baby & Me program. She described the program to be for new moms who haven't returned to work and for grandmothers who are taking care of their baby grandchildren. The board was supportive of the program, but wished Tammy had discussed the program at an earlier board meeting so that we didn't read about this new program through the newsletter. Participants pay \$48 for the 6 week program. It is running on Tuesday morning and Saturday morning.

Tammy reviewed the statistics through December. There were no questions.

Tammy then reviewed the current FY 19 expenditures through 11/20/18. There were no questions.

Tammy then reviewed the FY20 Operating Budget. The board had several questions for Tammy. One being, are there other accounts that are used that are not reflected on this budget. The answer is, Yes, the gift account is not included in the budget, but it is an account that is used for programming. The gift account receives donations from individuals that are making donations in memory of someone in most cases. Another account is the GATRA revolving account where we receive up to \$103,000 in reimbursements. Tammy also shared that we have the Formula Grant that is \$27,000 per year that is used for the salary of the volunteer coordinator and newsletter.

Tammy shared that we received a grant from the Cultural Council for \$1,100 to run an exercise program run by the South Shore Collaborative.

Tammy gave an update on the wall repair for Newcomb Hall. She didn't have a final cost. The repair looks quite nice. There was a brief discussion on the plans for protecting the generator. There will be more information in future meetings on this topic. There was a question on the need for a camera on the generator. A topic that needs to be discussed at a future meeting.

The town warrant is open and it doesn't appear that the Senior Center will need to place an article on the warrant.

Nancy Lester and her SHINE efforts saved residents \$110,000 in health care costs for 2019.

There are several new programs and popular programs in February – Author/Magician on 2/7; Tea with Eleanor Roosevelt on 2/11; Art for your Mind 2/15; Doughnuts with the DPW on 2/21; and Movie Chappaquiddick on 2/22. The Baby and Me Saturday program starts on Saturday 2/9.

As a semi-annual review - there are no issues with our current instructors. Everything is going well!

The party for the 4 retiring Friends of the COA will be on Monday, January 28<sup>th</sup> at 1 PM. The food will be pastrami sandwiches from Sam LaGrassa's in Boston. Each member will receive a citation from the offices of Dave DeCoste, Michael Brady and William Keating. Entertainment will be provided by Bob Silvia. Each retiring member will receive a corsage and pen.

Tammy shared that the new board has met and is interested in starting to fund raise outside of the center. Board member Roger Leslie asked if the stand-up PR banner regarding bricks for the center's walk could be moved throughout the town to solicit more interest in the bricks. It was received well and plans will be made to be sure that it is moved from the corner to the Newcomb Hall to other town buildings.

There were no Newcomb Hall requests received this month.

The semi-annual Strategic Plan Review was moved to the February meeting.

### **Board Open Forum**

Don Buckley shared an experience he had at a rest stop in New Hampshire and it made him think, do we have a Comfort/Service Animal Policy. It was determined that we don't and Tammy is going to look into what may be in place as a town policy. This also raised the potential need for a Transgender policy also.

During December there was a day when seniors were in the computer room and they complained of a strange odor. Staff investigated and didn't find any problems. The seniors in the room after the incident questioned why they weren't told what the problem was. After discussion, it was decided that if another incident like that occurs, call 911 and have it investigated. Tammy also wants to have a leader for each group that meets at the center so they are on a list and can be communicated with if there is a need to cancel with short notice or a notification of any changes are necessary outside of the newsletter.

There was a discussion on odors in the bathroom also. That was a blockage and it has been repaired.

## **Board Member Reports from their Liason Assignments**

Affordable House – Les shared that there is a 6:45 Planning Board meeting tonight regarding cluster housing, small lots, small houses, houses limited in square footage.

Sylvester School is also a topic of discussion relating to affordable housing. The current proposal is for 27 apartments. The selectmen will be discussing at an upcoming meeting.

TRIAD/SALT – Claire shared there was a meeting in December by the fire department with a demonstration on stove fires.

Piano Update – Dick fixed the back leg. He is concerned with the front 2 legs having the same cracks just like in the back leg. There was a brief discussion on how we acquired the piano. No one knows how we acquired the piano. The majority of the board feels that we don't want safety problems because of the piano and we don't want to expend money having it tuned if we should dispose of the instrument.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, February 11, 2019 at 9:00 AM.

Respectfully submitted,

*Carol Mattes*  
Carol Mattes  
Secretary

CC: Hanover Council on Aging Advisory Board Members  
Tammy Murray, Hanover Elder Services Director