

HANOVER COUNCIL ON AGING

Minutes of the Regular Advisory Board Meeting January 9, 2017

The Regular Meeting of the Hanover C.O.A. Advisory Board (Board) was held on Monday, January 9, 2017 at the Hanover Senior Center. The meeting was called to order by Donald Buckley at 9:10AM. Six members were present: Donald Buckley, Richard Farwell, Claire Flynn, Eleanor Kimball, Roger Leslie and Carol Mattes. Thelma Litchfield was absent. Additional attendees were Robyn Mitton, Hanover Elder Services Director and Nancy Lester, administrative assistant at the Hanover Senior Center.

The minutes from the December 12, 2016 Regular Meeting were accepted.

Old Business

- 1) There has been a good response to the community forum scheduled for Wednesday, January 11, 2017 from 5-7PM.
- 2) The Senior Center still does not have a permanent custodian. The current substitute custodian did all of the shoveling after this past weekend's snowfall.
- 3) The outstanding issues regarding the building: the folding door room dividers and acoustics are still unresolved.
- 4) The senior center has received about \$2,000 in gift cards to distribute to the seniors from generous residents in Hanover.

New Business

- 1) Activities for the remainder of January include Line Dancing on January 9 and 23, Men's Discussion on January 17, a session of Art for Your Mind on January 20, Art Deco on January 23, the book club at the senior center on January 25 and Women's Discussion on January 31. The senior center will be closed on January 16 for Martin Luther King's Day.
- 2) Robyn mentioned that there remains confusion out in the community as to what the senior center does and does not do. Senior center staff often refers people to other town departments or Old Colony Elder Services (OCES).
- 3) The Board members will meet with consultant, Cheryl Bryan on Wednesday, January 18 to discuss the results of the community forum and work on the strategic plan.
- 4) An analysis of the Hanover Senior Center activities and services compared with eight other local senior centers was done. It revealed that the Hanover Senior Center is second only to Marshfield in terms of the number of services and activities offered.
- 5) The Board discussed the situation with federal spending for the SHINE and SHIP programs. SHINE and SHIP provide one to- one counseling for seniors on Medicare, Medicaid and the insurance plans that plans that work with them. Most counselors are volunteers and they come to senior centers to meet with seniors who need help. The

Senate Appropriations Committee voted to eliminate the entire \$52 million in spending for this program.

- 6) State Senator Michael Brady will be at the senior center on March 10 to make a presentation and State Representative David DeCoste will be here in April to discuss the senior circuit breaker tax credit.
- 7) Future social events include the St Patrick's Day lunch on March 17 and the Volunteer Recognition Breakfast on April 7.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20AM.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, February 13 at 9:00AM.

Respectfully submitted,


Nancy Lester

cc: Hanover Council on Aging Advisory Board Members

Robyn Mitton, Hanover Elder Services Director

Town of Hanover Selectman

Anthony Marino, Hanover Assistant Town Manager and Community Services Director