

HANOVER COUNCIL ON AGING

Minutes of the Regular Advisory Board Meeting July 11, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Hanover C.O.A. Advisory Board (Board) was held on Monday, July 11, 2016 at the Hanover Senior Center. The meeting was called to order by Donald Buckley at 9:30AM. All seven members were present: Donald Buckley, Richard Farwell, Claire Flynn, Eleanor Kimball, Roger Leslie, Thelma Litchfield and Carol Mattes. Additional attendees were Anthony Marino, Hanover Assistant Town Manager and Community Services Director, Robyn Mitton, Hanover Elder Services Director and Nancy Lester, administrative assistant at the Hanover Senior Center.

The first order of business was the annual election of the officers of the Board. Donald Buckley was reelected Chairman, Richard Farwell was reelected Vice Chairman, Carol Mattes was reelected Secretary and Claire Flynn was reelected Treasurer.

The minutes from the June 13, 2016 Regular Meeting were accepted.

Old business

- 1) There continues to be problems with the heating and cooling systems at the senior center. Last week during the heat wave, the air conditioner was not functioning properly. Hanover DPW evaluated the problem and Commercial Boiler Systems came and fixed the air conditioner.
- 2) Additional landscaping work has being done by the Eagle Scout candidate, senior volunteers and the custodians. The progress has been substantial and the center is looking well maintained.
- 3) New audio visual equipment has been installed by Mike Kane and is working well.
- 4) As a follow-up to the updated policy on transportation, seniors who use the van received a copy of the policy and needed to sign a form stating that they have read the policy and will follow it.
- 5) Expanded transportation services from GATRA have been delayed due to state funding cuts. However, there is an effort to find alternative sources of revenue to provide this service.
- 6) During fiscal year 2016, the senior center staff emphasized outreach under the umbrella designation "Hanover Cares." Recent examples of this program have been: helping five seniors receive senior circuit breaker tax credits by paying a tax preparer to fill out three years of tax returns for them (benefit about \$9,000), assisting a senior to fill out forms to receive free medications from the drug manufacturer (benefit about \$12,000) and helping a senior apply for funds to purchase two hearing aids (benefit \$5,000). This program will continue in fiscal 2017 and will include educational programs, mobile senior center at the senior housing sites and a focus on emergency preparedness.

- 7) The Park and Recreation Friday night program at the senior center is off for the summer but will return in the fall.
- 8) The Hanover Senior Center participated in the Healthy Aging Grant and is expanding its efforts to provide nutritious meals to seniors. Last spring in partnership with the Hanover High School nutrition department, the senior center offered healthy meals two days a week. Additional local partnerships are being explored including South Shore Vocational-Tech.

New business

- 1) July program highlights include: line dancing which will return on July 11 and 25, Old Colony special lunch on July 12, hypnosis make up classes on July 13 and 20, Boston Light House presentation and ice cream social on July 15, Old Colony presentation on July 18 and TRIAD on June 26. The senior center crafters have begun to work on fall products and are planning a festival of the trees at the senior center as well as participating in the holiday Stetson House program. A health fair is scheduled for September 23.
- 2) Robyn asked the Board to act as ambassadors in the community and emphasize all of the positives regarding programs and services at the senior center.
- 3) She spoke about the extensive interaction between the Hanover senior center and other town departments, local organizations and regional entities during the past fiscal year. The following list reflects this involvement: Hanover Town Manager, Hanover Assistant Town Manager, Hanover Police, Hanover Fire Department, Hanover Park and Recreation, Hanover Schools, James Curtis Library, Hanover Historical Society, Stetson House, Hanover VNA, Hanover Health Department, Hanover Finance Department, Hanover Assessor's Office, Hanover Veteran's Service Officer, Hanover Conservation and Open Space, Hanover Lions Club, Hanover Club, Hanover Garden Club, Walnut Hill Garden Club, Altrusa, Plymouth County Sheriff's Office, Plymouth County District Attorney, Registry of Motor Vehicles, GATRA, Representative DeCoste and Senator Brady.
- 4) Recently, the folding door room dividers were mishandled and there is a large scratch on the floor in the Henry S. Newcomb room. This issue is being looked into to resolve the problem.
- 5) Robyn discussed how contributions made in honor of the Board members who have passed away were used. All of the contributions have been spent to improve the grounds around the center. She plans to put in a plaque to honor the deceased Board members near the rock in the front of the building.
- 6) Robyn is working on goal setting for the 2017 fiscal year and will bring in more information for the next Board meeting.
- 7) Anthony Marino will contact the consultant who worked with the library to create a strategic plan to set up a date for working with the senior center on strategic planning.

8) He reviewed some of the residential and commercial developments in Hanover.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45AM.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, August 8 at 9:00AM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Nancy Lester".

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