

HANOVER COUNCIL ON AGING

Minutes of the Regular Advisory Board Meeting August 8, 2016

The Regular Meeting of the Hanover C.O.A. Advisory Board (Board) was held on Monday, August 8, 2016 at the Hanover Senior Center. The meeting was called to order by Donald Buckley at 9:00AM. Six members were present: Donald Buckley, Richard Farwell, Claire Flynn, Roger Leslie, Thelma Litchfield and Carol Mattes. Eleanor Kimball 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 July 11, 2016 Regular Meeting were accepted.

Old business

- 1) The problems with the heating and cooling systems at the senior center have been resolved.

New business

- 1) August program highlights include: line dancing which will return on August 8 and 22, a cookout by the Hanover Department of Community Service on August 17 and a presentation by the Hanover Garden Club on August 18.
- 2) Carol Mattes updated the Board on the Master Plan progress. Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC) presented a report based on the results of the online survey and three pop-up events in Hanover in June. Schools, sidewalks and open space, affordable housing, transportation and the preservation of historical sites were categories with the most interest. There will be an Open House at Town Hall on September 14 from 6:30PM-8PM and the Board members were encouraged to attend and express their point of view.
- 3) Robyn stated that the goals for fiscal year 2017 at the senior center were to develop a strategic plan and to expand on the theme of Hanover Cares, highlighting the social services offered and emphasizing the volunteer program. The theme for the coming year will be "Hope and Gratitude."
- 4) Robyn would like more financial resources to help with the many needs that the seniors have in paying for the most basic services, such as food, utilities and health costs.
- 5) Some recent examples of financial assistance to seniors include working with Old Colony Elder Services to get a delinquent gas bill paid (\$800) and help from the Town of Hanover on a senior's real estate tax bill (\$660).
- 6) The Hanover Senior Center is working with the Greater Boston Food Bank to join their Brown Bag program for seniors. This program provides a monthly bag of groceries to those seniors who meet certain financial criteria. The Hanover Senior Center is also

supporting the Hanover Food Pantry by publishing its needs in the September bulletin and providing a box at the center where people can drop off their contributions.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, September 12 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