

**Foxborough Council on Aging and Human Services**

**Board Meeting November 15, 2012**

**Present:** Chairperson Joanne Pratt, Vivian Pitts, Jerry Norwood, Jeanne Bonneau, Elaine Biggeri, Wendy Haney, Lloyd Gibbs, Ann Alibrandi and Director Vicki Lowe

**Absent/Excused:** Colin Haney and ex-officio Ed O'Leary

*This meeting was called to order by Joanne Pratt at 5:00 pm*

The meeting notes from September 20, 2012 were approved.

**Budget Report:**

We are right on target with our operating budget. We replaced a window (possibly a lawn mower threw a rock up). Our retractable wall needs some work this will come to \$1550.00. The repair was cancelled and is not rescheduled yet. The vehicles have been holding their own. Vicki spoke to the mechanic Glenn and he feels with the work he has done, the van will make it through the winter. Vicki relayed that information to Kevin, Randy and Jim DeVellis. Therefore it is not on the Special Town Meeting warrant for replacement. Vicki did speak with several other COAs about their replacement schedule for their vehicles. They vary, but the most have a rule of thumb of 6 years or 100,000 miles. We exceeded both of these measures. Our van is 8 years old and has 108,100 miles. Kevin said he feels confident we will be getting a new van next year. The car continues to be under-utilized. The staff is a little wary of the car's reliability. With Glen assurance of their safety Vicki has encouraged them to use the car whenever possible.

Kevin is expecting us have our budget meetings in early December. The CIP will be after that. Vicki has met with the new school maintenance manager, Tony, about how to price out the cost of a generator for the building. Vicki plans to ask for that as well as the van for the capital improvement requests. Kevin has already outlined the various departments that he feels will be considered for new hours or staff. We are not on the list but Vicki will be asking for more staff or more hours. Vicki also is asking for the rug to be replaced as it has become impossible to clean.

**Director's Report:**

Bill Driscoll is not back yet. Garry MacDonald is still covering his hours. Russ is also on a medical leave. Bruce Murphy, former library custodian is covering for him.

Pam McGuire completed the course and received the Certified Food Handler training. Working 25 hours she doesn't have time currently to do more with events, however many COAs have staff that help with activities. Vicki's goal is to eventually increase Pam's hours to full time so she can take a more active role in events/ planning/ prep.

Foxboro hosted the Pakistani delegation for 2 weeks. They arrived the day of the hurricane and left last Thursday. We had them here for a morning. They were very interested in Social Services; several departments gave them parting gifts. We purchased 3 Foxboro afghans from the Friends as the gift from COA & HS.

Hurricane Sandy put our new emergency Preparedness Program to the test. We have developed some new procedures. We will require anyone registered in our system to be on the NC Sheriff's reverse 911 and also have a cell phone number listed for themselves or an emergency contact. We have created a reminder refrigerator magnet, asking participants to call us if they have changes to their situations. We also are setting up a schedule to confirm information. We had to cancel activities on 10/29 & 10/30 as the schools were closed. Staff was here to help residents. The center did not lose power.

As part of the Executive Office of Elderly grant work for emergency preparedness, Chief Hatfield, Pauline Clifford, Pat Gavin and Vicki hosted 3 community emergency management conversations titled, "what you can do to help yourself". We held them 10/9 at the HS, 10/15 at the McGinty Room and 10/18 at the Senior Center. We also filmed one of them for cable. Vicki was glad that we did this prior to the storms. This was another way to reach out to people who might want to be on part of the critical needs program.

As part of the work on the Mass-ALFA grant we hosted 3 more workshops, all presented by Christine Homen. The Community Network asked if she could repeat one of her programs for them about setting healthy boundaries. We have distributed 75% of our Elder Services Resource guides at meetings and mailings to area COAs. Vicki also sent the booklet electronically so that others could reprint with updates in the future if they wish or print out individual pages by subject. All of the work on that grant is now close to an end.

We hosted a MIIA rewards program for municipal workers.

We had our annual resource meeting with the schools.

S C Events – B & W held an educational program about incontinence; Bay State PT presented a program at the Men's Breakfast. Wendy cooked – thank you! We held the Financial Exploitation program done with HESSCO and Sharon Credit Union – thank you Collin! We had our last Senior Supper until the spring. We ended up having the Veterans Day program at the senior center. The Foxboro Rotary provided all of the volunteers and goodies. They did a really great job, and we were able to give our dedicated volunteers a break, so they could enjoy being waited on and enjoy the program. Dan Clark, Michael Morrissey, both Veterans agents and Jay Barrows were speakers. There was a good turnout despite the snow. We had a pie making event for the holidays today - Thank you Joanne and Wendy.

Upcoming events – Invensys Foxboro has been working on an intergenerational project with the Igo School and a senior partner. We will be filming the results of this partnership on 11/ 27. We are starting another Bereavement series with Beacon Hospice – Coping with the Holidays that will run through the month of December. Donna Lee will be our entertainer at Benjamin's.

Gary Leanus will be our entertainment for the Holiday Party at the senior center. We will be having another language class starting in January.

Human Services Report is found in our folders as written by the community social worker Noreen Sherys.

**Old Business:**

The Trip Committee has 52 people signed up for the trip to Yellow Stone and 5 on the waiting list. On July 1st they will be sponsoring a trip to the Pennsylvania Dutch Country. They are working on day trips and would like any suggestions for new places that you might have. The NY trip was cancelled because of the storm. Lloyd Gibbs has volunteered to be the leader for a trip to Foxwoods in the future. Some suggestions offered were Wrights Chicken Farm and the trip to Essex with the train and boat ride.

**New Business:**

The Friends meeting will be held on Saturday. The HESSCO report and information was sent by email. No Citizens Input. Jerry made a motion to cancel the December 20, 2012 meeting it was seconded by Lloyd all agreed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Alibrandi