

Rockland Council on Aging

317 Plain Street

Rockland, Ma. 02370

Secretaries Report

February 17, 2016

With a quorum (at least 7) present Chair Beverly Ladner called the meeting to order at 9:30.

**Roll Call:**

Lorraine Ahern	P	Chris Kelley	P	Rita Howes A	P
Jean Callahan	P	Beverly Ladner	P	John Rogers A	P
Cynda Childs	E	Audrey Ryan	P	Agnes Smith A	E
Eleanor Cole	P	Patti Penney	E		
Jack Conway	P	Peter Stonis	P		
Lu Crowley	P				

**Approval of Minutes from previous meeting / Secretaries Report:** No meeting in January 2016 - a quorum was no met, therefore no meeting was held.

**Old Colony Elder Services:** Agnes Smith – Excused death in the family

**Old Colony Planning Council:** Rita Howes gave a very detailed report on the January Meeting of OCPC regarding End of Life Issues. Some of the highlights discussed were Concerns the Individual might have regarding:

- Decision – who to be designated
- Medications
- Comfort
- “How People treat me”
- Family needs to be knowledgeable of “Individual Wishes” and the family needs to be involved with, Health Care, Patients wants and needs, Life Support, Funeral and Wake choices as well as cremation.

Priorities might include concerns/consideration about:

- Mental Health Issues
- Homelessness
- Physical Health
- There was a discussion by Jim Levia about how connecting Towns and the Transportation would benefit everyone. Using bike paths and Pedestrian Safety overall.
- Discussion on Volunteerism for Transportation needs
- Discussion on Title Money for maximizing services

- Discussion on a National Aging Survey and Systems Report from State Generated Statistics for 2014, 2015 and 2016

**Financial Report:** A motion was made by Eleanor Cole to accept the report as read, seconded by Jack Conway - the vote was unanimous. Current balance: \$45,314.30

**Warrant Report:** The Bill Warrant was duly signed by all members present.

**Outreach Report:** A motion was made by Lorraine Ahern and seconded by John Rogers to accept the report.

- There has already been two snow days for the COA this year. When snow is predicted the Meals on Wheels Recipients receive 2 frozen meals ahead of time so that they are prepared for an emergency.
- The Memorial Pen Pal Program, which was a tremendous success last year has started and the first exchange of letters has taken place.
- The Out Reach Coordinator is seeking volunteers as escorts for disabled individuals who need assistance while going on medical appointments. This would require the volunteer to assist the individual getting on and off the bus as well as accompany them to their appointment. If you know of anyone interested please have them get in touch with Eleanor Murphy at the COA.
- Eleanor is learning how to do the weekly Payroll so that there is always backup for Peggy when she is on vacation. Eleanor also covers Jean Mann when she is on vacation, doing the daily balancing of the Congregate and Meals on Wheels monies.

**Director's Report:** Director Peggy discussed a seminar she attended on "The Bat Brockton transportation. The Rockland COA is in need of a new van for transportation. The current van has over 100,000 miles on it. Currently we have 2 part time drivers who are doing an excellent job meeting the needs of our seniors as well as having the flexibility in their schedules to cover for each other.

- Tuesday March 15, 2016 the Rockland Senior Center is sponsoring a "St Patrick's Day Dinner. The cost is \$5.00. This event has always been a huge success and availability fills up very quickly.
- The Hair Dresser Program has been a great success with Lisa having a complete and full complement almost every Tuesday.
- The Center has 2 student manicurist come on the First Monday of each month and provide free nail services to the seniors. There is no cutting of the nails, just a touch up and nail polish is applied. (No gel)
- Director Peggy has been meeting with Police LT. Zeoli regarding safety at the center and the steps that should be taken in the event of any incident. The Police Department has included the Senior Center in their plans for "Emergency Evacuation" should the need ever arise. There is ongoing discussion regarding:
  - ❖ Process to develop a Plan for Evacuation
  - ❖ What Security the center would require

- ❖ Lockdown Procedures
- ❖ Shelter in Place Protocols
- ❖ Need for windows to have shades and that shades should be pulled down

LT Zeoli toured each room and discussed which have locks and which rooms should be utilized in the event of an emergency. The COA members are extremely pleased that the Director has taken a definitive stance to ensure that all people in the center are safe at all times. The directors' no-nonsense approach to safety is evident throughout the center. When entering the center the reception desk is covered at all times. People entering the center "Know" what the safety rules are and the Director is constantly updating the rules to ensure compliance. The members of the COA are very pleased at the on-going safety program.

- The Friends of the Rockland Seniors donated monies toward a new industrial floor washer.
- The Center is open once a month on Saturdays for breakfast and card playing. The program is very successful and attendance has doubled to over 70 people attending.

With no further business a motion was made by John Rogers and seconded by Eleanor Cole to adjourn the meeting at 10:10.

Next meeting March 16, 2016 @ 9:30 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorraine Ahern  
Secretary COA February 17, 2016