

COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 5, 2019

Stoughton Room, Stoughton Area Senior Center

Present: Bob Barnett, Roz Gausman, Nancy Hoffman, Barb Manson, Mary Onsager, Faith Schuck, Jeanne Schwass-Long, Charlotte Snow, Susan Wollin

Staff Present: Cindy McGlynn, Hollee Camacho

Absent & Excused: Pat O'Connor, Lou Havlik, David Sharpe

Call to order: B. Manson called the meeting to order at 11:07 AM.

February Minutes: H. Camacho noted a typo of "it" instead of "is". Moved by M. Onsager, C. Snow seconded to approve with edits; passed unanimously.

Director Comments: Cindy McGlynn

- Key Club students are unable to deliver our newsletters. They currently don't have an advisor and there is discussion at the school as to whether they should be driving for a school activity. In the meantime, a local 4H leader has expressed interest in the job and is reviewing the routes. Thanks to COA members for helping to deliver many of this month's newsletter.
- Cindy is still in the process of finding sturdy/easy-to-move table options for downstairs. R. Gausman suggests checking whether the company can put Cindy in touch with other customers who work with older adults and use these tables. Cindy will and also said she'd call around to local Senior Centers for opinions.
- Parking for our participants continues to be an issue.

Spring Event Planning: Charlene is working with a volunteer who is designing our Gala mailer. Music will be background piano music for the first two hours, followed by Roger Gohlke's Big Band.

Review Strategic Plan for Committees:

Discussion of recommendations posed in the letter sent by the NCOA Accreditation Board.

- J. Schwass-Long questioned what Aging Mastery was –a series of classes that participants take to earn a certificate; evidence shows that graduates are more likely to age healthy. It is a time-intensive series to coordinate and our staff questions whether we could get the 15 people needed to participate. Some Centers have combined resources to fill up a class.
- N. Hoffman questioned why the consultant recommended an adult day care. Discussion followed about the difficulty businesses have to staff them and the high cost for participants, though day cares serve wonderfully for individuals in need of more socialization/stimulation, their caregivers are in need of respite, and are a nice transition before long term care is needed. We've reached out to the new Kettle Park West Senior Living and was told they have no plans to provide an adult day care. Currently, Oregon has the closest adult day program.
- More discussion followed on the many issues facing nursing homes. See Legislative Update.
- Committees are asked to review their currently assigned action plans, the suggestions given from the Accreditation Committee and given from the NCOA Accreditation Board.
- Committees are asked to give Hollee any updates they make to their action plans.
- Now that we have adopted a combined 5-year Strategic Plan/Accreditation planning process, Hollee suggests COA annually dedicates time to reviewing the plan to keep our results, observations, completions dates, etc. up to date.

Staff Update: We will be interviewing three people for the Volunteer/Program Coordinator position. Nan Hoffman has agreed to assist with the interviews along with Cindy, Hollee, Kristin and Amy Jo Gillingham, the City's HR Director.

Committee Reports:

Fund Development: no report

Public Relations: no scheduled meeting until draft of gala mailer is available

Evaluation/Program: meeting set for Tuesday, March 12, 9:00 AM

COA members are asked to review the SASC survey as yourself and as a committee member.

Volunteer: meetings will be on hold until Volunteer Coordinator position is filled

Legislative Update: There is a state-wide shortage of nursing home staff; many nursing homes (including Attic Angels' and Karmenta Center in Madison) are closing across the state; it is difficult for people on medical assistance to find a home that takes Medicaid; and the cost of nursing home care is expensive to those not on MA. Ultimately more funding should go to support long term care so that nursing homes can take more people on medical assistance and so they can pay workers fair wages for the important care they provide.

C. McGlynn: Currently there is no news specific to seniors concerning the Governor's Budget.

Meeting Adjourned: Moved by N. Hoffman, seconded by R. Gausman to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:42 AM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 2, 2019 at 11:00 AM