

COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 9, 2019

Stoughton Room, Stoughton Area Senior Center

Present: Bob Barnett, Lou Havlik, Nancy Hoffman, Barb Manson, Pat O'Connor, Mary Onsager, Faith Schuck, Charlotte Snow,

Staff Present: Cindy McGlynn, Hollee Camacho

Absent & Excused:, Roz Gausman, Jeanne Schwass-Long, David Sharpe, Susan Wollin

Call to order: L. Havlik called the meeting to order at 11:07 AM.

February Minutes: C. Snow and L. Havlik noted several typos. Moved by F. Schuck, M. Onsager seconded to approve with edits; passed unanimously.

Director Comments: Cindy McGlynn

- We are struggling to fill the Volunteer/Program Coordinator position. The application process was reopened because the person we extended the last offer to took another job. Cindy explained the history of the position. We have been requesting that the City fully cover the position since it was dropped from the budget several years ago. The Bryant Foundation provided funding for the 19-hour position for many years, and in 2018 even covered it as a 32-hour position with full benefits. For this 2019 cycle, the Bryant Foundation let us know they would only be funding the position at the 19-hour amount it provided in 2017.
- Luckily the Senior Center has enough fund to cover the Volunteer/Program Coordinator position for the rest of the year but not for future years. To continue to fundraise for the position is unreasonable and unachievable. The position is, yet again, a request we will make to the 2020 budget. The position has allowed us to grow "leaps and bounds" in the last five years allowing us to increase and diversify our programming. Currently our remaining staff has not had the time to schedule anything new. The Mayor and City staff understand our request, but ultimately the decision will need to be made in comparison with other city-wide needs and requests.
- L. Havlik has offered to draft a letter from the COA in support of the Volunteer/Program position. N. Hoffman questioned what sort of concrete evidence with can include, (e.g. statistics from other senior centers that show how many staff are required per community). Cindy responded that this type of data is difficult to quantify or compare since each senior center is made up of different leadership or funding sources. The biggest difficulty is contending with other departments' requests.
- Cindy is finalizing our annual employee evaluations. It is a new process this year. Staff were asked to fill out a self-evaluation for Cindy to review and include her feedback, for then Human Resources to also review and approve. This week Cindy is beginning to meet with staff to review and discuss the evaluations with each staff person.
- City Council is looking to put a 48-hour limit on the Senior Center's parking lot.
- We received our NISC accreditation plaque. Cindy was invited to attend the NISC annual conference in Washington D.C. to accept it, but thinks it is unlikely with the budget and timing.
- Cindy distributed the quarterly budget and asked that you call her with any questions.
- Hollee encouraged COA to share information regarding the Powerful Tools for Caregivers class. This evidence-based class needs just a few more sign-ups or it could be canceled.

Spring Event Planning: The mailer has been completed and is currently being counted by volunteers this week. We have not received a lot of feedback for sponsors. Tickets will be available here at the Senior Center and at McGlynn's Pharmacy soon. As of today, April 9, 2019, the Senior Center has been located in this current building for 25 years. A senior center has been in existence in Stoughton for 47 years.

Review Strategic Plan for Committees: Cindy McGlynn

- From the national accreditation feedback, staff has added the goal of "Implementing a secure electronic system for filing case management files" to the Strategic Plan. Hollee will email the latest copy along with the next meeting minutes.
- As you meet with your committees next please review the larger strategic plan and be mindful of documenting and sharing your progress for Hollee to note on the plan.
- L. Havlik mentioned that she liked the idea of COA annually dedicating time to reviewing the plan to keep our results, observations, completions dates, etc. up to date.

Committee Reports: no meetings to report on

Legislative Update:

- The City is beginning preparation for the 2020 budget.
- Currently there is no news specific to seniors concerning the Governor's Budget.
- The County is looking at their priorities and are hopeful that more funds can be delegated to addressing mental health. Our staff are challenged daily with clients struggling with some form of diagnosed or undiagnosed mental illness. The County used to have an organization that had a psychiatric social worker that could assist our case managers/clients with a case plan and with connecting them to resources. Since this was cut from the budget (10 year ago?) there are fewer therapists that take Medicare or that clients' insurances will cover. It is even a greater obstacle for those individuals who deny or are unwilling to address their health. Oftentimes a person's mental status affects the aid they may qualify for from other services (i.e. an uncooperative client went through all of the provider options contracted through the County's financial and physical need-based Support Home Care program). Thankfully we have managed to avoid some crisis situations thanks to the close-knit workings of our local Police, EMS and ER departments. However, unfortunately unless a person is a harm to themselves or others there is little we or these agencies can do for someone who is deemed their own decision-maker.
- L. Havlik thanked the staff for the volunteer appreciation breakfast held this morning.

Meeting Adjourned: Moved by B. Barnett, seconded by P. O'Connor to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously. Meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 7, 2019 at 11:00 AM