

COUNCIL ON AGING Meeting

April 20, 2018

Present: Carol Pike, Ted Thornton, Bill McGee, Gwen Trelle, Randy Foster, Gina Froment, Frank Froment, Linda Hescok, Heather Tower and guest, Bill Ames

Absent: Sue McGowan, Tony Stavely

The meeting was called to order by Chairwoman Gwen Trelle at 9:03 am.

Gina Froment motioned the March minutes be accepted as presented and they were seconded by Frank Froment. Motion passed.

Director's Report:

Financial: We are within our Formula Grant budget; our only future major expense is the June Volunteer luncheon. The Summer Concert series will be partially funded by the Cultural Council and with the help of our Friends organization.

Activities: Our activity numbers are on an even par with last year; van ridership remains low as we finish out the fiscal year. Getting the word out that it is still possible to shop has been difficult. There will be future workshops to create the Ice Notebook later this summer. The Memorial Day Parade in May will be coordinated by Gina Froment, and with the suggestion by Bill of having a kazoo band, we will make quite a splash. Information for a possible fund-raising event focused on the Connecticut River cruise will be passed along to the Friends organization. Randy will work on a trip to see the Keene Swamp Bats for later this summer.

Committee Reports:

Legislative: Governor Baker sent us a letter thanking us for our support in raising the dollar amount per person in the Formula Grant to \$12 next year.

Ted committed to calling Paul Mark after the meeting to ask him to please support and co-sponsor the following:

1. Line Item #5046-0000:

Rep. Ruth Balser will file to restore the Elder Mental Health earmark to \$500,000 which will allow for continued funding of our 5 Elder Mental Health Outreach Teams (EMHOTs)

Rep. Paul Donato will file to restore the cut to the Nutrition Program funding.

Rep. Aaron Vega will file to restore the "Enough Pay to Stay" amendment.

2. Amendment #327 to H4400

Elder Behavioral Health

Representatives Balser of Newton and Garlick of Needham move to amend the bill in section 2, in item #5046-0000, by adding the following: "provided further that the Department of Mental Health and the Executive Office of Elder Affairs shall execute an elder behavioral health interagency service agreement to provide not less than \$500,000 for adult and community based behavioral health services to adults over the age of 60," and in said item by striking out the figures "486,718,033" and inserting in place thereof the figures "487,218,033".

Membership: Bill Ames was introduced to the Board and it was voted to send his name to the Select Board for COA Membership.

Village to Village: There is great community interest and support for this venture. There will be a May meeting to report back the findings of the listening sessions and begin to set up committees to move the project forward. Committee members expect to have the project running in a year or so. Many thanks to the stalwart members of this committee for their many hours of both organizing and promoting this endeavor.

A motion to adjourn was made by Linda Hescock and seconded by Gina Froment. *The meeting adjourned at 10:21 am.*

Respectfully submitted,

Linda Hescock 5/18/18

Linda Hescock,

Secretary