

Minutes of COA Board Meeting May 9, 2017

Board Members Present: Lois Carra, Mary Ann Dalton, Pearl Hines, Lily Owyang, Eva Paddock and Ashley Thibault

Absent: Daniel Buroso

Staff Present: Lisa Castagna, Vincent McCarthy, Susan Pacheco and Emma Watkins.

Call to Order – President Owyang called meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.

Minutes of April 2017 meeting were reviewed and accepted.

COA Executive Director – Susan Pacheco

- Human Services budget hearing is scheduled for May 10th.
- ED shared with Board COA's page from budget book. Lists COA's Mission & Services; FY18 Objectives & Performance Measures; Division Financial Overview.
- Elder Abuse and Domestic Violence Training was held on May 3rd. Anticipated attendance 30; actual 52 attendees. More than exceeded our expectations.
- Save the Date Thursday, June 22nd (1:00-3:00) – Cambridge Elder Abuse Prevention Coalition – will host True Story Theater. More information to follow.
- ED continues to work with Annie Fowler, Somerville Cambridge Elder Services, in joint collaboration of launching a Memory Café at the Cambridge Senior Center. ED will report further next month.
- Continued work on roofing and deck project. Expected completion at end of June.

Citywide Senior Center – Emma Watkins

- Park Ranger presented a presentation on The Black Heritage Trail a path in Boston, Massachusetts, winding through the Beacon Hill neighborhood and sites important in American black history.
- For our restaurant trip we took a group of seniors to CASA Portugal
- We offered two health and wellness lectures in April: one topic was on Depression and the second presentation by a nutritionist from SCES, Protein Needs for Older Adults
- We ended the month with our Volunteer Recognition Luncheon where we had the opportunity to say thank you to our volunteers. This volunteer luncheon was special because our guest speaker was Bob Hurlbut from the Senior Volunteer Clearing House.
- At our May Town Meeting our guest speaker was a US Postal Inspector – his talk was mesmerizing. He talked about mail fraud and how seniors are being victimized.
- We are scheduled to have a presentation May 25 on Prince Hall and the Free Masons. The city erected a monument on Cambridge Common in honor of Prince Hall.
- Activities will wrap up the month with a cooking class by Richard Slater.

North Cambridge Senior Center (NCSC) - Alicia Johnson.

- No report

Client Services – Vincent McCarthy

- Thank you to all at COA who have met with Maryellen to inform her about your programs. She has also attended at staff training and visited with local agencies including Multi-Services, CHA and will be visiting CSLS, SCES, and RSCs
- Mass Bar Association 2017 Elder Law Education Program Estate Planning: Join us on June 15, 2017 when Attorney Clarence Richardson will be presenting the basics of estate planning. He will cover the most common estate planning documents such as Wills, Trust, Health Care Proxies, Powers of Attorney and Living Wills. Attorney Richardson will discuss how these documents work and why you need them.

- Men's Group Billiards Party was successful – had some reps from DHSP and OWD. April 16 there was a presentation by 1369 on Café Culture.
- Mayor's Picnic: Vincent is organizing accessible transportation for senior centers and housing sites (through RSCs)
- As part of Outreach Vincent attended SCES Elder Fair April 12 at Somerville Holiday Inn with Arline McGrady and Geoff Kotowski. Also the Alzheimer's Partnership Event on April 22. Upcoming: May 24th Door Knocking at 808-812 Memorial Ave.

New Business

- Cambridge Housing Authority has informed COA of future renovation at Russell Apts. (2050 Mass Ave.). Renovation includes the North Cambridge Senior Center (NCSC).
- All residents, as well as NCSC, will be relocated for a period of 1 year. ED and Alicia Johnson will be working with Housing staff to locate a suitable location to house programming for that time period.
- Anticipated work start date is scheduled for November 2017.

Old Business

Meeting adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, June 13, 2017 @ 9:30 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Castagna and Susan Pacheco.