

Minutes of COA Board Meeting of June 9, 2014

Board Members Present: Ethel Ampey, Elizabeth Cadigan, Lois Carra, Carole Feeney-Withrow, Miranda Heibel, Pearl Hines, Benjamin Horner, Ismail Laher, Lily Owyang and Jeanne Ryde

Absent: Kenneth Hebert

Staff Present: Lisa Castagna, Alicia Johnson, Vincent McCarthy, and Susan Pacheco

Meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by Lois Carra

Review/acceptance of minutes of May 12, 2014 meeting

Lois Carra requested approval of minutes. Motion to accept and unanimously approved.

Reports

COA Executive Director

- The COA is part of the City's Heat Emergency Protocol including Fire and Public Health departments. Everyone knows what to do: First point shelter is the War Memorial, second the Senior Center.
- Domestic Violence 101 training was presented to the Haitian Elder group on 5/29. The elders were often brought here for childcare and became isolated. The additional approved grant of \$5000 will support a larger public forum in the fall.
- This spring there will be 4 public transit meetings:
 - April 29 – Mt. Auburn Hospital
 - May 30 – Maud Morgan Arts Center
 - June 17 - Citywide Senior Center
 - June 25 - Miller's River Apartments
- The COA and the rest of DHSP sailed through the Budget hearing.
- Monday Ballroom Dancing – We are considering a charge of \$2 to \$3. 90% of the participants are non-Cambridge residents. Chinese Golden Age Center provides social services. We have had to bring in DPW after ballroom dancing before line dancing. Other communities, Malden and Belmont have stopped their programs. Brookline had to take out a grant to support ballroom dancing.
- Carole made a motion seconded by Lily to charge \$3 (comparable to other exercise classes). Motion carried with all in favor.

North Cambridge Senior Center (NCSC)

- The prescription take back on June 5 was very successful. There were donuts from Verna's.
- 36 people attended the Charlesgate Yacht Club trip. Other popular activities included a daytrip to the Butterfly Place at Kimball Farms, a copycat recipe cooking class and lunch walks to local restaurants.
- A six week belly dance workshop will begin on 8/5.
- Open Forum is increasing in numbers.

Client Services

- Nykky is fitting very well into the I&R position.
- "Stronger Together" a Cambridge-based peer support group for 55+ adults in recovery from drugs and alcohol, is hosting a panel discussion and Q&A on Tuesday 10/7.
- Taxi Coupon reimbursement was \$25,176 for FY2014. 450 individuals were projected to participate, 501 were actually served.

Old Business none

New Business Ethel suggested a Senior Center sign "Respect Seniors Near Center"; this is in regards to bikes on sidewalks.

Meeting adjourned at 12:00 pm

Next meeting: Monday, September 8, 2014 @ 11:00 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Castagna.