



# Town of Ashland

## MASSACHUSETTS

Council on Aging

Minutes

10/6/2016 12:00 AM

Ashland Council On Aging  
October 6, 2016

Guests: Susan Wells, Steve Mitchell, Kim Kotab, Joanne Duffy, Fran Bakstran (Baypath)

Board Members: Izzy Assencoa, Ed Brudz, James Zebrowski, Arthur Caya, , Carol Love, Barbara Thorenson and Alexis Christopher

Absent: Alice Smart, Diane Hanson

Meeting called to order at 10:10 AM.

The September 1 Meeting minutes were read and a motion was made by Jim and seconded by Alexis to accept the September minutes with 2 changes. In issues & Discussion; changed "Jim to write a memo to BOS... review at October Meeting.." to "... and review at the November Meeting" and Changed "Sue Well will invite Karen Spilka to our COA meeting..." to "Izzy will invite...".

Citizen Participation

None

Issues and Discussions:

BayPath's Fran Backstran discussed the programs offered by Baypath and entertained questions from the COA. Fran said the Area System on Ageing requires a survey on Ashland Ageing Programs and Services Needs every 4 years and BayPath submit where the money will be used. She is looking for input on Ashland's ageing needs and priorities. Joanne Duffy distributed a Area Plan 2018-2021 Survey for the Area Agency on Aging to the COA and asked them to Rank the top 5 needs for Ashland Seniors. The Survey results were 1) Housing Affordability, 2) Escort Services for Medical Appointments, 3) Home Repair, Transportation for Basic Errands, and 5) Homemaker Services.

Ed checked with Framingham, Holliston and Hopkinton and found only the Callahan Senior Center in Framingham was open one Tuesday a Month for scheduled programs. Ed Passed around the Holliston Senior Center News and Hopkinton Hill Topper. Sue Wells & Joanne Duffy indicated they have copies & flyers of programs from the towns in the office. Joanne will look at budgeting for a night open if COA can justify a need.



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Jim wrote memo to the BOS to voice Ashland COA funding concerns and all the COA directors signed the memo.

### Old Business:

Joanne is looking into setting up a coffee and Baked Goods area in the Country Store in the October/November timeframe. The activity will be funded thru Donation Basket.

Izzy has written a letter from the COA to the BOS with Copy to Karen Spilka and Tom Sanacandra to voice concerns on uncertainty in budget grants and possible cuts in program funding and presented it for review to the COA. All COA Directors signed the memo and Izzy will present it to the BOS in October or November.

### New Business:

Izzy to invite Jenna the Assistant Town Manager to our COA November meeting.

### Outreach Report

151 clients served last month with 3 new clients. Hot lunches begin at the Middle School and 58 meals served during September. Ashland HS is presenting "Arabian Nights" Sunday November 6th @ 2 PM. See Sue for free tickets. Sue attended an Outreach Coordinators Meeting and will offer a SCO (Senior Care Options) presentation in November for Seniors on MassHealth. Senior on MassHealth and Medicare will be encouraged to attend. The Care Givers Support Group will meet twice a month. Fuel assistance re-certifications are in progress and new Applicants accepted starting in November. FairView Estates in Hopkinton will offer Home care and rehab services on site and will have scheduled an opening ceremony Sunday Nov 13th 11 to 4 pm at their facility.

### Directors Report:

Seniors made 2009 visits to the Center in September (increase of 468 from Sept 2015). Joanne presented a list of upcoming programs for October and November. Senior Center will be closed Nov 23 & 24 for Thanksgiving and Dec 26 thru Jan 2 for Christmas. The men's bathroom floors will be scheduled for replacement - TBD. Fire Inspector Keith Robie inspected the center and found table, chairs and trash receptacles blocking hall doorway access. Chairs and Trash receptacles have been removed and the Free Table relocated to Free Bread area. Glass on Country Store Display cases needs to be changed from glass to plastic or tempered glass. Joanne will work with Dave Foster to replace. Joanne says they have moved furniture in the Country Store and made room for a small coffee station near the TV. Kim is applying for as \$4k grant for June 2017 from Bridges Together IG to support inter-generational senior and children opportunities and programs. FCOA will be asked for \$2K to offset the Volunteer Coordinator Position salary. Upcoming programs: Sadie Hawkins Day Dance (TBD), Warming up for Winter Soup Monthly @ \$2 per senior; Veterans Lunch November 14, Open Enrollment for Medicare;



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M A S S A C H U S E T T S

Shine has extended hours on Thursday. Center is in need of a new Podiatrist – Joanne welcomes any inputs on filling this great need.

Around the Table:

A motion was made by Carol and seconded by Jim to adjourn the meeting at 11:57.

Respectfully submitted

Edward Brudz