

MINUTES OF THE MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ABINGTON COUNCIL ON AGING

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 23, 2009

A meeting of the Board of Directors of the Abington Council on Aging was held on Wednesday, September 23, 2009 @ 9:00 a.m. The purpose of this particular meeting was to meet with Asst. Town Manager Dori Jamieson in an effort to get direction on filling the position of COA Director since Mary Beth Lawton has given notice and will be vacating this position. In attendance were Chairperson George Whiting, Vice Chair Marie Brown, Jack Libby, Betty Slinger, Ann Welch, Karen DiLorenzo, Joe Iacobucci, David Klein, Larry Keough, Betty Keefe and Recording Secretary Maureen Wall. Many members of the Friends of the Abington Seniors were in attendance as well as the COA office staff. Mr. Whiting opened the meeting and at the outset stated that this meeting was being held to decide what action should be taken by the Board at this time and not to dwell on what has happened in the past. Chairperson Whiting welcomed Ms. Dori Jamieson who began by stating that rumors being spread about regionalizing senior centers or joining forces with the Whitman COA are just that, rumors that are unfounded. Ms. Jamieson stated that the biggest hurdle the COA immediately faces is the state of the financial situation and the need to find a new Director as soon as possible. She explained that the senior center operates through a revolving account and noted that that account has already been depleted and the COA faces a \$1,000 deficit. Receipts coming from use of the center are what funds the revolving account. Income from The Flame of Fire Church ended when the church recently vacated. Dori stated last year it cost approximately \$20,000 to run the center. The Friends offered assistance in helping with electric and utility bills. A discussion of ways to generate income were considered, as well as joining forces with the Whitman COA. Most members were not receptive to that idea.

Ms. Jamieson went on to say that there is funding in place for the COA Director position. There is \$10,000 in the budget for expenses, and that account now has a balance of \$6,000. Funds from the salary or expense accounts cannot be used for expenses incurred in the operation of the center.

After much deliberation, it was generally felt that at this point the Board should hire an interim director, either full time or part-time, as soon as possible. Three individuals have shown interest and they will be contacted immediately for interviews the next day. David Klein offered to act as a liaison on a part-time basis to assist the interim COA Director that is chosen and also expressed an interest in applying on a part-time basis. The interested parties to be interviewed are Arlene Spaulding, Suzanne Djusberg and Jon K. Jacob. Everyone is anxious to get a responsible individual into that office by the beginning of the following week. It was felt that two individuals be selected to work on a part-time interim basis. Details can be worked out for hours and salary when the board meets the following day.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen A. Wall, Recording Secretary

SPECIAL MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ABINGTON COUNCIL ON AGING

THURSDAY, JUNE 24, 2009

(HIRING OF INTERIM COA DIRECTOR)

The Board of Directors of the Abington Council on Aging met on Thursday, September 24, 2009 at 1:00 p.m. to interview candidates for the position of interim COA Director. The only absent member was Jack Libby. The Board decided that it would hire two candidates to work on a part-time basis. The individuals to be interviewed were Arlene Spaulding, Suzanne Djusberg and David Klein; Jon Jacob withdrew his application. Votes were taken as follows: 6 in favor of Suzanne Djusberg, 4 in favor of David Klein and 3 for Arlene Spaulding. It should be noted that David Klein left the room and abstained from voting. David will work 10 hrs. weekly, officially, and Suzanne up to 19 hrs. The hours will be decided on later. George will notify Asst. Town Manager Dori Jamieson to institute the procedure to get these two individuals on board with the town. Details of schedules were not determined; salaries would have to be discussed with Dori Jamieson in light of the most recent proposed budget cuts. It was felt that with two individuals working together that the Center would be open from 9 to 4 daily. The front desk will be manned by volunteers as has been the situation of late. Posting of this position as a full time job will be determined by the Asst. Town Manager.

This meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen A. Wall

Recording Secretary

SPECIAL MEETING

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE ABINGTON COUNCIL ON AGING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

(HIRING OF INTERIM COA DIRECTORS)

A special meeting of the Board of Directors of the Abington Council on Aging was held on Thursday, September 24, 2009 at 1:00 at the Senior Center to interview candidates for the position of interim COA Directors. The members decided it would be best to use the same questions in interviewing the interested parties, i.e., Arlene Spaulding, Suzanne Djusberg and David Klein. Jon Jacob had notified the secretary he was withdrawing his application, but said he would be interested in becoming a member of the Board of Directors.

A vote was taken as follows, but David Klein, as a member of the Board, abstained from voting and left the room. Suzanne Djusberg - 6 votes; David - 5 votes; Arlene 2 votes. David would work 10 hours officially, and up to 19 as need be; Suzanne would be working 19 hours. The schedules would be worked out later. George Whiting will notify the candidates and will speak with Asst. Town Manager Dori Jamieson to get the paperwork in motion. Hopefully the COA position will be operating as soon as next week on the interim basis.

Maureen A. Wall

Recording Secretary

