

2019 JUL 16 AM 9:58

MINUTES OF THE BELMONT COA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Beech Street Center
June 4, 2018,

Present: MaryAnn Scali, Chair, C. Bunyon, E. Hamann, J. Semuels, P. Solomon, M. Cahalane, J. Staton, T. Olson, J. Singler, T. Dukas, Nava Niv-Vogel, Executive Director.

Absent: C. Qiang Lai

1. Call to Order: The Chair brought the Board to order at 7:32 p.m. in the Beech Street Center Conference Room.

2. Senior Citizen Concerns: Concerns have been heard about trash and the Town's new household Trash removal and large barrel program which starts soon. Complaints should go to Jay Marcotte at the Belmont DPW.

3. Minutes: The minutes of the May 8, 2018 minutes were reviewed and were corrected to add an "f" before "rom" in paragraph 7, add commas in "57,000 and 72,000", add a capital "A" in MaryAnn and correct the spelling of "Ethel" in two places. After review, the minutes were accepted by motion, second and a vote unanimously.

4. Updates and Correspondence:

A. and B. Director, Assistant Director: Nava discussed her Director's Report including Assistant Director Lil Hartman's resigning on July 15th to spend more time with her daughter. Lil will be available to do Special Projects and will train the new Assistant Director. The position is being posted. Senior complaints as set forth above were discussed about the new Town trash pickup plans. Nava introduced a new Breakfast-To-Go program to be started by the Center and Springwell five days a week in the Cafe area. Also discussed, coordination with the Library on "One Book, One Belmont, "Frankenstein", our grant request to the Commonwealth with nearby C.O.A.'s for a Part-Time Housing Social Worker under the "Community Compact" program, the Age Friendly Community Report (Planning For An Age Friendly Belmont) and Public Meeting at the Center earlier in the Day (Jan E. Mutchler, PhD, UMass Gerontology Institute). The report is available on the Town Website. Last discussed was Town Day, last Saturday and the many requests for information on C.O.A. programs and services.

C. Friends: J. Semuels discussed the successful Fashion Show fund-raiser with Lord and Taylor which grossed over \$3000. Kudos to many volunteers including those from sponsor Coldwell Banker, the Belmont Chinese Dance Team, Friends Board members, models, including, but not limited to Nava, Lillian, C.O.A. attendees and Police Chief McLaughlin and attorney Rosales. The Friends, Inc. next meeting will be on June 14th at the Center. Our May newsletter has been mailed to over 3000 homes in Belmont. We will be preparing next for the Annual Al Natale concert on September 13 at 7 p.m. and Craft Show on November 17 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The UMass Age Friendly Initiative Report (Planning For An Age Friendly Belmont) for which we served as a funding pass-through is being presented here this afternoon.

D. **Springwell:** J. Singler reported that things are fine at Springwell and mentioned the new Breakfast program being established at the Center.

5. **Old Business:**

A. **Review of Budget requests FY '19:** Nava's statements are set forth in her Director's Report referenced in paragraphs 4A and 4B above.

B. **Update on Advocacy for Tax Work Off Program:** Nava mention that two weeks for tonight, June 19th, the Selectmen will take up raising the amount that modest income Belmont seniors gross income \$57K (hope to raise to \$72K) can take off their property taxes currently \$1000 (hope to raise to \$1500) by volunteering for the Town of Belmont at \$11 per hour. Nava stated that this can be done by the Selectmen and does not require a Town Meeting vote.

C. **Update on High School Pool Stair Repair Issue:** Nava stated that there is no change in the status of this issue. She will continue her inquiries.

D. **Discussion of the Long-Term Planning/Vision Report:** J. Singler discussed the Long Term Planning Vision of the Board from building a new Center through developing programs at the Center. The next focus must be developed on the future needs of seniors. Several Board member opined on the needs of younger seniors in their 60's and 70's for learning digital technology and protection from hacking. J. Singler read and discussed our mission statement (on our web site) and asked each Board member to rewrite it (if necessary) for the next meeting.

6. **New Business:**

A. **Age Friendly Report:** Nava was asked to re-send copies of the Planning for an Age Friendly Belmont Report to Board Members.

B. **Replacement of Carpet in Front First Floor of Beech Street Center:** Nava discussed her long on-going efforts to get the replace the deteriorating carpet on the first floor of the Center dating back to D. Kale and J. Boyle who had said a budget was available for it in past years. After discussion, J. Semuels submitted a motion on behalf of the C.O.A. Board "to request an appropriation from the Town's Facilities Department to replace the carpet on the first floor of the Beech Street Center now carpeted due to its deteriorated condition as soon as possible." After a second, this motion was passed unanimously. J. Semuels agreed to draft such a request for the Chair to Steven Dorrance, the current Director of Facilities for the Town.

C. **Schedule of Board Meetings and Note Takers for 2018-1019:**

Mon. 9/10- J. Staton;
Tues. 10/9- M. Cahalane;
Mon. 11/5- E. Hamann;
Mon. 12/3- T.Olson;
Mon. 1/7- M. Scali;
Mon. 2/4- C. Bunyon;
Mon. 3/4-. T. Dukas;
Mon. 4/1- C. Qiang Lai

Tues. 5/7- P. Solomon;
Tues. 6/4- J. Semuels;

D. Board Changes: J. Staton announced that he is leaving the C.O.A. Board in December, 2018.

7. Next Meeting: The next meeting of the COA Board is Monday, July 9, 2018 at 7 p.m. at the BSC.

Draft Respectfully Submitted 6/7/18:

Joel Semuels