

BELMONT COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 11/3/03

Present: M. Ahearn, N. Hegarty, E. Hamann, J. Kantor, H. Kazarian, A. Lougee, B. Miranda, T. Morabito, N. Niv-Vogel, P.Solomon
Absent: J. Bruschi, J. Horner

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by Barbara Miranda (Chair).

Minutes from October meeting: Phyl Solomon noted that Anne Lougee's name had been omitted from the list of people serving as secretary on the 2003-2004 slate of officers. The minutes were unanimously approved with this correction.

Springwell report for October 22, 2003 Board Meeting:

Please see attached area plan goals & objectives for FY04.

Home Care: Sue Temper reported that at the Mass Homecare Conference the future of home care was discussed and the issue of where it would fit into the overall picture. The Oregon plan is being studied to determine if it might work here to enable people to stay within their community as long as possible and not be moved to nursing homes.

The Annual Meeting will be held at Springwell on Thursday, November 13 at 2 pm with an Open House to follow at 3:30pm.

Ethel Hamann reported that her term as one of Belmont's representatives on the Springwell board has ended. She strongly recommended that another board member be selected to join Dave Alper, Phyl Solomon, and Clara Nickolson who currently represent Belmont. Further discussion will take place at the December board meeting with the hope that an appointment can be made at that time.

Director's Report: See attached.

Additions to Director's report:

It was noted that the Board of Selectmen, at the 10/27/03 meeting, approved an early retirement option for certain town departments. The Program Manager of the COA is eligible. This article will be brought to the 11/17/03 town meeting for final approval.

A discussion followed with some board members strongly supporting maintenance of the position of Program Manager/Assistant Director and expressing the hope that it would not be eliminated. The COA Director will carefully evaluate the staffing needs of the center and positions needed to insure maximum operation of the senior center for the next fiscal year (7/04-7/05) The

12 hours previously designated for the position of Program Manager will remain in next year's budget and will be used only for staffing purposes.

The Director also announced that the Friends of the COA organization has approved earmarking of 15% of its current budget for COA programs.

Old Business:

Senior Center Building Committee report:

Neil Hegarty, member of the building committee, reported the final version of the RFP (Request for Proposals) has been approved and posted. The next meeting of the committee will be held on December 8 at the Chenery Middle School to discuss the proposal.

Karen Pressey, Chair of the Senior Center Building Committee has sent a letter to the Board of Selectmen requesting guidance as to the establishment of a process and criteria for selecting future tenants for the second floor.

2. Youth Commission Report:

Barbara Miranda reported that there will be a meeting on Thursday, 11/6 at 7 pm at the Senior Center to discuss the upcoming plans to use the Center on Friday nights for

Belmont young people. The meeting will be an opportunity for the neighbors and any other interested persons to find out more about the plans and ask any questions. The new police chief has expressed support and will also be available at the meeting.

New Business:

Nava Niv Vogel requested board feedback as to how to define a COA volunteer.

It was the unanimous consensus of the Board that a volunteer could only be credited with volunteer hours if he/she volunteered to help with programs offered at the senior center by the COA. As such these volunteers would then be eligible to attend the annual Volunteer Recognition Luncheon in the spring. It must be noted that the COA welcomes persons from other senior organizations in town who wish to volunteer their time for programs offered at the senior center.

Barbara Miranda stated that she would like to add a section...Announcements... to the agenda format. It would follow Senior Citizens concerns. The Board was in agreement.

The meeting was adjourned at 9 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyl Solomon