

**BELMONT COUNCIL ON AGING
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
JULY 6, 2004**

Present: *J. Brusch, E. Hamann, C.M.Hegarty, J. Horner, J Kantor, H. Kazarian, A. Lougee, T. Morabito, J. Semuels, P. Solomon, B. Miranda, Chair & Nava Niv-Vogel, Director*

Absent: *None*

The meeting was called to order by Barbara Miranda, Chair at 7:30 pm. Joel Semuels was introduced as the new board member. Joel recently retired from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs where he served as General Counsel

Acceptance of Minutes

Acceptance of the June 7, 2004 minutes was moved, seconded and unanimously approved. (Several spelling errors were noted and will be corrected.)

Senior Citizens' Concerns

Barbara Brown presented concerns about a Russian-speaking resident in senior housing who appeared to have significant medical issues & did not seem to be getting her needs met. Nava Niv-Vogel, COA Director, stated she had gotten in touch with a Russian speaking outreach worker through Jewish Family and Children's Services but to date the worker had not made contact. Nava stated she would follow up.

General Announcements

The Chair presented next year's meeting schedule for the group to review. The September 13th meeting date was approved and the remainder will be confirmed at the September meeting.

The fund raising committee of the Friends of the COA has sent information to be used in the fundraising packet for final review by the graphic designer. When the packet is complete fund raising for the new senior center will begin.

Reports and Correspondences

Springwell.... The Outreach Committee is moving ahead with its efforts to enhance community awareness of its services. In the fall there will be training for Board members on talking points that can be used to present Springwell's mission and service programs. The Nutrition program contracts are being renewed. David Alper, Belmont board member, mentioned that Belmont is hoping to build a Senior Center, which would be equipped to host a meal site. Springwell would be available to work with the town should that come to pass. As part of the process of developing its Area Plan, Springwell will sponsor a public hearing in September to gather information from the towns being served.

For Director's Report please see attached.

Old Business

Building Committee: The committee presented an update to the Selectmen on Monday, 6/28/04. It was very well received. The plans include using environmentally friendly systems and materials where possible. It is hoped that the building will be LEED (Leadership, Energy & Environmental Design) certified. Although this might mean increased up front costs the payback over the years could be significant.

A suggestion was made by John Bruschi for the COA to host a seminar/lecture addressing future programmatic needs of seniors. He will look into this with the hope of offering it in the fall. It was the general consensus of the Board that the timing would be appropriate given the current planning for a new Senior Center.

Shaw Market update: Nothing new to report on trying to get discounts for seniors. Barbara Miranda will follow up.

New Business

The Chair appointed 5 board members to the nominating committee. They are Henry Kazarian, John Bruschi, Ethel Hamann, Tom Morabito and Phyl Solomon. The committee will present a slate of officers at the September meeting. The Board will vote at the October meeting.

Joel Semuels noted that "self neglect" has been added to Elder Protective Services as a reportable condition. Mandated reporters (e.g. firemen, policemen, teachers, social workers) will now be required to report these cases or be subject to fines.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Phyl Solomon