

Report to Commission on Elder Affairs
Senior Center Committee 9/9/14

Present: Robin Bahr Casey-Chair; Tom Cullinane, Amy Waters, Patty Hainsworth

The meeting was called to order by Robin at 4:05 pm at 128 Providence St. The minutes of the June meeting were reviewed but could not be approved due to lack of quorum. The next meeting date was confirmed for Tuesday October 14th at 4 pm.

Finances: Amy reported that FY'15 funding appears to be stable and coming in as expected. The Committee reviewed a revised budget which is adjusted for terminating the employment of the temporary receptionist mid-August. Amy noted that the "temp" left for a permanent position, our current senior aides are handling the reception desk duties well and the new Administrative Assistant position is due to be filled, thus eliminating the need to fill the temporary slot. Amy noted that the Senior Center will probably serve as the "Hub" for the DPH falls prevention initiative and thus will receive funding, some of which will be used to amend current contracts for St. Paul's Elder Outreach and Elder Home Repair/Maintenance to provide home assessments and modifications. She also noted that the City has not yet allocated funds in response to the "wish list" submitted to the City Manager per his request. The committee reviewed the status of space rentals including the recommended renewal at the same rate for the Alzheimer's Association for one more year. Amy noted that two potential developers toured the 26 wing this summer and that the City administration continues to work on an agreement for parking lot ownership and renovation.

Operations: Progress on the hiring process for the Administrative Assistant position was discussed. Patty reported on the many students volunteering this fall (6 nursing students from Worcester State, 2 students from the Mass College of Pharmacy, 1 from Clark and more). She reported on the summer's facility and grounds issues including a major problems with plumbing, HVAC and alarms; the tornado bringing down many tree limbs; the landscaper's work; the community gardens and the planning for an update to large external sign. Patty also reported on the falls prevention calendar, the successful summer concert series and upcoming programs. The Committee asked that the Commission be informed of larger programs and encouraged to participate.

The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.