

COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS

Minutes of 10/27/2014

MEMBERS PRESENT: Robin Bahr-Casey, Chair; Tom Cullinane; Chris Evans; Theresa Eckstrom; Matt Fonseca; Steve Greenberg; Ursula Hanus; Victor Ortiz; Gail Schuyler; Steve Smajkiewicz

MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED: Meg Coffin; Paul Johnson; Gail Smith; Elaine Wrubel

STAFF PRESENT: Amy Waters; Patty Hainsworth

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. The minutes of September 22, 2014 were approved. m/s/a
The Senior Center Committee Report of October 14, 2014 was approved as mailed. m/s/a

It was reported that Commission membership terms have expired for Steve Greenberg and Nick Kaltsas. Robin and Amy acknowledged their service. A new member, Elizabeth Nguyen, has recently been appointed.

Amy gave the Director's report and the goals and objectives updates were reviewed: Elder Affairs is expected to enter into an intra-governmental contract with the Worc. Dept. of Public Health to receive \$139,380 and then Elder Affairs will contract with St. Paul's, Central Mass Housing Alliance, Elder Services and Family Health Center to do home assessments and home modifications for falls prevention; First Quarter tax levy spending is on target; The Tufts Health Foundation is interested in funding collaborations and held an event in which Worc. DPH reported on the Senior Support Team and the Prevention and Wellness Trust Fund collaboration; We did not receive funding from the Fallon Foundation to expand the Senior Support Team; A suggestion was made to seek funding to have the Your Health is Golden program be accredited as an evidence-based program. The osteoporosis final CMAA report for FY 14 report shows we exceeded projected goals for number of participants (100 unduplicated) and units of service. Robin and Amy attended the Friends of Worcester Senior Center Annual Meeting.

Amy also reported that the Health and Safety Fair at the Senior Center will be held on Wed., Oct 29th; The Fall Prevention 2015 Calendar is completed by Patty and is being distributed. This year it was paid for thru the DPH grant; The Bhutanese Group has been meeting and the multi-cultural pot luck lunch was successful; The contracted elder service programs will be attending Commission meetings starting in November to give a short presentation; The transportation program to the senior centers continues and over 1,000 rides were given in the first quarter of FY 15. The average cost of a one-way trip is just over \$3.00; Jennifer Linch has been hired as an Administrative Assistant for the ground floor and has made a positive difference to date; The Center will officially be open until 4:30 starting in November; In response to the Commission's request to evaluate Amy's performance, Human Resources is developing a form for the Commission to complete to give input to the City Manager on same; Staff performance evaluations are still being worked on; The building remains fully rented and there is no change on the status of the vacant portion of the building or parking lot; Staff attended the DCU Senior Spectacular; An article written for Inside Worcester was posted and emailed to members; Linda and Amy presented at a Worc. regional educators' meeting. Representatives from the Town of Marlboro received a tour of our senior center and diner operations.

Patty reported on programs and services, including Building Services activities: The annual multi-cultural pot luck lunch was very successful; The Veteran's Day program will be held on Friday, Nov. 7th and many other great programs are coming up; There was discussion about getting program information onto Facebook and other social media with the assistance of Clark students and the City; The exterior sign has been updated with new co-locators; A volunteer has re-urethaned the outside benches. In Linda's absence, Patty also reported on outreach activities and evidence based programs; We are the state's first site for the Spanish version of the Chronic Disease Self-Management Program, Tomando and a monitoring visit was successful; There are now 5 SHINE counselors working out of the senior center and open enrollment period is keeping them busy.

There was discussion on the Friends Annual Meeting. Per a request, Amy will scan the Friends President's Remarks from that meeting and send them out.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, Nov. 24, 2014.

The meeting adjourned.