



Rehoboth Council on Aging
Board of Directors Meeting
@ Gladys L. Hurrell Rehoboth Senior Center
Minutes of January 17, 2018

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- 1) **Call to order**---7:00 p.m.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3) **Members Present**--- Ron Whittemore, Dr. Bruce Thayer, Dr. Robert Lambe, MaryBeth Moriarty, Sue Laverdiere, Charlene Cunha, Neal Harrington and Linda Sherman
Members Excused--- None
Guests Present--- Kimberly Robens
- 4) **C.O.A. Director requested an Executive Session**- All Board Members approved- Started at 7:02 p.m. -- adjourned at 7:17 p.m.
- 5) **Regular Meeting Session reopened** at 7:17 p.m.
- 6) **Review past months meeting minutes**--- October 25 18, 2017- slight revision on section 4 requested by MaryBeth Moriarty. Dr. Lambe asked if there were any other revisions needed- none. Ron Whittemore 1st motioned and MaryBeth M. 2nd motioned.
- 7) **Presentations**--- Nothing to report.
- 8) **Expense Report**--- Final posted budget reports received by Town Accounting for the C.O.A. are currently updated through September 2017 and look good. The C.O.A. budget reports for October through December 2017 have not been closed as of yet and will be forwarded and presented once received from Town Accounting. Linda Sherman added that our added expenses with M&S Cleaning has improved greatly. They come in more than once per week not like before and also clean additional areas which has been very helpful here at the C.O.A.
- 9) **Director's Report**--- Jaime Conlon, our Town Nurse, came in today during our Wed. Breakfast and gave flu shots and did blood pressure checks for our Seniors. She also started a free shingles vaccine waiting list. She is currently waiting for a donated supply of shingles vaccines and hopes she will receive them very soon.
 - Safety Day Presentation at the C.O.A. on 11.13.17 went very well. 60 Emergency Backpacks containing flashlight, radio, emergency meal, blanket, etc... were donated for our Seniors, who were very appreciative to receive them.
 - We actually had 4 separate Flu Clinics here this past fall. Rite Aid came twice and Anawan Pharmacy also came twice. These Flu Clinics were held on 4 separate days. The turnout on these Flu Clinics were great and very convenient for our Seniors.
 - Marion Manor Nursing Homes come here at the Senior Center during our Tasty Thursday at the end of each month and host 'Dollar Store BINGO'. This is a big hit here at the Center and the Seniors LOVE it. Wingate Nursing Home also come here and host entertainment for our Seniors every other month.
 - Steve Howitt came here on Dec. 6th and Paul Feeney came here on Dec. 14th. MaryBeth asked Linda if they came during our open hours. Linda said yes, they stayed in the open Conference Room and were there to answer any questions that the Seniors may have had for them.
 - T.R.I.A.D. hosted a 'Breakfast with Santa' here at the Senior Center on Dec. 2nd and it also went very well. The Children had lots of fun. Our C.O.A. Chef Bill helped with the cooking. There were raffles, our Town Ambulance team came with the Ambulance to show the kids. Fireman Randy also came with the Fire Truck came and gave the kids a ride- it was awesome!
 - Kalifornia Karl came here on Dec. 12th, compliments of Wingate Nursing Center, and entertained the Seniors here with his awesome singing. He was a HUGE hit! Linda asked him to come back for us again and he came on Dec. 20th for an encore. Was a great turnout! We hope to have him back again when his schedule permits.

- 10) **Old Business**--- -Linda and Ron W. wanted to mention that we had a power outage in our area for about an hour or 2 and our NEW GENERATOR kicked in. Just a tiny flickering of lights. This happened during our busy Monday Gert's Café luncheon too. Everything here was operational including the kitchen and there were no issues at all. The Generator does work! We also had an issue with a snow storm and a 2 hour delay, but because we had power, we were still operational.
- With our recent snow storm, our local Seniors came here to our newly appointed, 'Warming Center' by REMA. Not too many people came but it went very well. This helped as a 'drill'/1st step. REMA came with their special trailers. They also have a designated closet here with their supplies ready for when needed. REMA stated that it was better than the school. MEMA has stated that pets can now come. We were told that we could fit 30-40 people here. Our Conference Room could be designated as a 'Command Center' if needed.
- 11) **New Business**--- Ron Whittemore talked about a recent HVAC proposal from Blue Hills Electrical for \$8,600. Ron, Jim Murray, Don Welchman and Linda Sherman (our C.O.A. Director) attended this proposal meeting. Blue Hills Electrical stated that a down payment of \$4,300 would be need to begin the project of controlling our heating system on point to finally work properly. This heating issue should have been correctly done originally with the previous contractor and architect that did this building. Blue Hills Electrical is experienced in this type of issue with the thermostats not communicated properly with our boiler and air handlers in the ceilings. An added \$1,500 to rebalance our air output plus and additional \$5,000 contingency would be needed as well. There is a warrant for a Special Town Meeting on Jan. 29th 2018.
- Ron W. also stated that fixing this current heating issue now will help in the long run with continuous additional repairs. He mentioned that this past winter has been much colder than last winter. It is good that we did replace our old boiler. We have used 20% less fuel with our new boiler.
- 12) **B.E.S.I. Report**--- Dr. Thayer attended a B.E.S.I. Finance Committee meeting today 1.17.18 and stated that there has been reduction in stipends this year. Our Senior Center is one of these included. We recently had a stipend of \$1,675 per month and this has been decreased to \$1,194 per month for our B.E.S.I. account. This account has helped pay some of our kitchen expenses along with our driver's mileage. We had close to 40 meals on wheels delivered last year and we are down to about 25 deliveries this year. Linda was asked by Sue Laverdiere, why we had less Seniors getting Meals on Wheels lunches this year, and she stated that several clients have deceased since last year. She did state that if we get more clients for our area, she can put in for an amendment to adjust and increase our current stipend. Ron W. asked Linda if our Formula Grant Funding would be affected as well. Linda said "No it is not affected". Dr. Lambe asked about application procedures to request for Meals on Wheels deliveries for those in need. Linda stated that the Senior would need to call B.E.S.I. directly to apply and that they would determine who would be eligible. A Case Worker would then be assigned. Our SHINE/OUTREACH Rep. here also refers any Seniors in need here at our Center over to B.E.S.I. as well. We also get help from our Town Police Liaison who also will let Linda know if they think a Senior may be in need.
- Another good example of why Meals on Wheels is so important for our Seniors in our local area---Our Director was notified by one of our volunteer 'Meals on Wheels' drivers that reported one of his client's on his route has been very ill and lives alone. With the recent snow storm that we had in our area, the client's walkway and driveway was not shoveled because the client was not well enough to shovel himself. Our Director contacted our local Lion's Club who in return sent their Leo's volunteers to help shovel the Senior's driveway.
- Dr. Bruce Thayer did say that the food preparation distribution there at B.E.S.I. in Fall River is still having issues and they are working on a resolution. We do have a Kitchen Chef Volunteer here at our Senior Center who also helps and double checks to make sure the Meals on Wheels lunches have been properly prepared and good to serve prior to their deliveries by our volunteer drivers.

- 13) **Friends of the Rehoboth Elderly Report**---MaryBeth Moriarty said that their Fundraiser Drive was going well. Sue L. stated that the Community has reached out and have helped our Seniors who are in need of fuel. They also distributed \$50 SHAWS Gift Cards for 20 local Seniors who were in need this Holiday Season. Linda S. mentioned that Steve Martin has recently retired from running our local Food Pantry and new volunteers have now taken over to help our community in need. Linda also wanted to mention that the C.O.A. is now helping Seniors with a 'One Time' Fuel Assistance donation. Brad is handling this and going over the qualifications needed. Sue Laverdiere stated that they will be meeting again next week with new members joining.
- 14) **Correspondence**---several Thank you cards sent to us from our Seniors. Fuel assistance donations given for our Seniors in need by Mr. & Mrs. J. Crandall. Rehoboth Cultural Council has given us a grant for a musician soloist-Bill Murano to play here at our Senior Center, and also a grant for Water Color Art Class which would help pay for the art supplies. The C.O.A. is very grateful-Thank you!
- 15) **C.O.A. Building usage**---Rehoboth Senior Citizens Club has requested our outside grounds for May 19, 2018 from 9:00am -3:00 pm to have a yard sale with also craft vendors to sell their crafts. Dr. Lambe motioned to approve, Mary Beth M. 2nd motioned.
- 16) **Open Forum**---Ron W. wanted to mention that our local Girl Scouts Troup 750, asked if they could use our C.O.A. parking lot to sell their Girl Scout cookies on Feb. 18th (Sun). Because it is outdoors, no vote was needed and would be o.k.
- 17) **Other Business Issues**---NONE
- 18) **Adjournment**---8:03pm- Dr. Robert Lambe motioned to adjourn meeting- Ron Whittemore 1st motioned and Sue Laverdiere 2nd the motion.

Respectfully submitted,
Kimberly Robens- Secretary

Approved by:



Dr. Robert Lambe
C.O.A. Board President

Next COA Board Meeting- February 21st 2018 @ 7:00pm