



# TOWN OF HOLDEN MASSACHUSETTS

## COUNCIL ON AGING

Louise Charbonneau  
Director

### ***HOLDEN COUNCIL ON AGING*** ***Thursday, April 4, 2019*** ***Conference Room – Senior Center***

**Present:** Richard Mansfield, Wayne Howard, Maureen Locke, Faye Ellis,  
Eric Johansen, Louise Charbonneau, Maureen Buffone.

The Meeting was called to order by Richard Mansfield at 8:00 a.m.  
The minutes from the meeting of March 7, 2019 were unanimously approved.

#### **F.H.C.O.A. REPORT**

Faye reported that the Friends will have a membership table at the Health & Wellness Expo on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

The senior dinner dance at the high school will take place on Thursday, April 25 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

The Friends held their annual meeting on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Faye reported the account balances as follows:

Leominster Credit Union	\$16,811.66
Leominster Credit Union (furnishings acct.)	\$ 1,858.38
Leominster Credit Union C.D.	\$26,105.78
LCU Trip Account	\$ 7,873.15

The Treasurer's report from the April 1<sup>st</sup> meeting showed the total revenue for the year as \$16,811.66 and the total expenses as \$13,287.18.

The newly elected Friends' officers are as follows:

Cynthia Stark	-	<i>President</i>
Wayne Howard	-	<i>Vice President</i>
	-	<i>Secretary</i>
Helen Holmes	-	<i>Treasurer</i>
Nancy Melton	-	<i>Assistant Treasurer</i>
Paula Grady	-	<i>Director 2019-2020</i>
David Ellis	-	<i>Director 2019-2020</i>
Valeda Schmucki	-	<i>Director 2019-2020</i>
Nancy Howe	-	<i>Director 2020-2021</i>
Winnie Hanson	-	<i>Director 2020-2021</i>
Marcia Sherbourne	-	<i>Director 2020-2021</i>
Eileen Gedritis	-	<i>Director 2021-2022</i>
Joan Nichols	-	<i>Director 2021-2022</i>
Faye Ellis	-	<i>Director 2021-2022</i>
Helen Holmes	-	<i>Membership</i>
Faye Ellis	-	<i>Nominating Committee</i>
Marcia Sherbourne	-	<i>Nominating Committee</i>

There was a last minute change to the secretary's position, as Geri Sawyer is retiring. It was suggested that perhaps they should consider having rotating secretaries, a different member each month fulfilling that position.

### **HELP AT H.O.M.E. REPORT**

Louise provided copies of the Help at H.O.M.E. report showing a balance of \$44,152.02. The total revenues to date for FY 2019 were \$18,456.00 and the total expenses were \$15,937.22. The Help at H.O.M.E. committee is scheduled to meet Thursday, April 11 at 4:00 p.m. Louise reported that Outreach has been very busy with Help at H.O.M.E. applications. Applicants are directed to apply for fuel assistance first, which often lasts for the bulk of the winter. Most of the applications are for heating oil and electricity, which are necessities of everyday living.

### **BOARD OF ELDER SERVICES REPORT ~ Richard Mansfield**

Rick offered his report from the Elder Services meeting held last month, which included some housekeeping matters and staff movements. There are a lot of pilot programs going on. If there are services that are not provided in house, they will hire out. There are new programs which are bringing in new sources of income. Elder Services provides services to 15 communities.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT ~ Louise Charbonneau**

#### **APRIL EVENTS**

***Monday, April 8 ... Free Legal Clinic ... 10:30-12:15 ...*** Attorney Arthur Bergeron from the law firm of Mirick O'Connell will be here to offer free 15 minute legal consultations.

***Wednesday, April 10 ... Restoring the Quabbin Eagle Population ... 1:00 p.m.*** Diane Benson Davis lived alone for four months raising eight baby eagles in the secluded wilderness of the Quabbin Reservoir Reservation. She is the author of Eagle One: Raising Bald Eagles, A Wildlife Memoir.

***Wednesday, April 17 ... Volunteer Recognition ... 12:00 p.m. ...*** The Holden Council on Aging will be honoring our Volunteers on **Wednesday, April 17 at 12:00 p.m.** with a delicious lunch catered by Toupin's. All of you are volunteers so if you'd like to attend and have yet to sign up, please just let Maureen or Louise know and we'll put your name on the list.

***Thursday, April 18 ... Book Discussion Group ... 10:00 a.m. ...*** The Book Discussion Group will meet to discuss the book Auschwitz Lullaby by Mario Escobar.

***Wednesday, April 24 ... Theatre in America ... 1:00 p.m. ...*** Many of the colonies forbade playacting on the grounds that it was morally detrimental. Two centuries later Rev. Smythe urged his congregation to avoid "The Black Crook" with its scantily clad dancers, so members of his congregations promptly rushed out to purchase tickets! Join us in welcoming historian Anne Barrett with stories of the evolution of theatre from colonial times to Vaudeville. This performance is presented through a grant from the Holden Cultural Council, and we sincerely thank them for their generosity.

***Thursday, April 25 ... Health and Wellness Expo ... 9:00-1:00 ...*** Our featured sponsor for this event is the Oriol Foundation. Other sponsors are Miles Funeral Home (Breakfast) ProCare Pharmacy (Lunch) Oriol Health Care (free canvas tote bag for each attendee) and the Friends of HCOA. We hope all of you will take a little time out of your day to stop by in support of this event. Debbie Osipov has worked very hard on this event to bring in many quality and interesting Guests and Vendors. A huge thank you to her for all of her hard work.

***Tuesday, April 30 ... Back by Popular Demand ... Pasta Bar Lunch ... 12:00 p.m. ...*** Meal Site Manager, Sue Donaldson will once again be offering a Pasta Bar for lunch on **Tuesday, April 30 at 12:00 Noon**. Come enjoy some pasta and a myriad of delicious toppings and sauces to enhance your pasta. A donation of \$2.50 is requested and reservations are a MUST.

## **VAN DRIVERS**

We have interviewed 2 applicants for the van driver's position. We have offered one of the positions to Nunzio Donato who has a considerable history of driving busses for school children. He has accepted the 3 day/week position and will start training as soon as possible.

## **DPW WORK**

Louise pointed out that access to the building from Main Street has been closed off. The DPW Highway Department is attempting to rectify the water situation as you come around the corner to the parking. The plan is to insert a pipe to direct the water to enter a drain that currently exists on Boyden Road.

Later in the summer, once the ground water dissipates, they are going to attempt to resolve the ice problem we had this year in the parking. This winter it was the worst it's ever been. The plan there is to redirect the water that comes down the hill to a basin near the baseball field.

## **THANK YOU**

A big thank you to the staff for carrying on while I was away.

## **NUMBERS FROM MARCH**

A Celtic Celebration - 38

Post Road Chorus Concert - 65

## **OLD BUSINESS**

The board decided that all the members should review the Telegram article about Shrewsbury, the Boston Globe article, and the findings from the survey and come back in May to discuss if they want a sub-committee to look into a future plan or not. Rick suggested having a facilitator come in to help develop a plan (this is something the Chamber had done).

Louise talked to Emmett Schmarsow. The state does not have any plans in place, but he thought it was a good idea to bring other boards and directors together. A facilitator would be needed, because of the diversity of the state. Louise would be happy to do it. It is up to us to figure out where we want to go.

Another aspect is the awareness of what the definition of the next 10 years is and how to stay relevant.

Rick will look into funding for strategic planning. He will do a presentation and form a sub-committee.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

None.

## **CITIZENS ADDRESS**

None.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

It was unanimously voted to adjourn the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, May 2, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Maureen Buffone