

Commission on Aging
Special Planning Meeting
Minutes

Monday, June 8, 2018

Present: Commission members Bruce Lorentzen, Helen de Keijzer, Don Gumaer, Dale Robinson and Richard Wolf, SWCAA liaison Meta Schroeter, Senior Center Director Wendy Petty and Social Services Director Charlene Chiang-Hillman.

Meeting convened at 9:18 AM.

Discussion on the recent June 8th Selectmen's Meeting that included the various locations of the Senior Center and the need for a Facilities Study. Could the MOU be extended, for how long and possible expansion? Richard Wolf will be taking the lead in gathering information and talking with a professional to get the architectural side of changing locations / improving current site.

Facilities Study is part of an ongoing topic of interest with Town Administrator Jonathan Luiz. There are concerns of cost, possibly three to four thousand dollars and where will the money come from? Are there any funds that were not used up from last year that could be used now? Clearly, more surveys are needed. Town people seem to respond more to surveys that are "town sponsored".

Back up driver(s) for Dial-A-Ride is still searching for people to help.

Affordable housing should be part of the Town Plan. Many of the Commissioners thought the Commission should take a stand of what is needed in specific money amounts for affordable living.

Social Services for the elderly are 50% of Charlene's workload. We need to have the presence of a few social workers at the center, at scheduled times to help explain and answer questions. Suzanne has retired and Charlene has announced that at the end of September 2018 she will be retiring as well.

Some liaison from the Westport –Weston Health Department would be appreciated. There has been no one since Monica Wheeler retired a few months ago.

Enhanced programs encompassing all "mature" people could be a great addition to what the center offers to the community. Perhaps evening hours could be added for those still in the work force.

Bruce adjourned the meeting at 10:30 AM

Respectfully submitted, Don Gumaer