

Senior Center Committee Minutes 11/12/13

Present: Steve Greenberg; Amy Waters & Patty Hainsworth-Staff; Mathew Fonseca-Guest.
Absent: Robin Bahr Casey(excused), Elaine Wrubel(excused), Tom Cullinane(excused),
Nick Kalstas.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm at 128 Providence St. Introductions were made. Without a quorum, the minutes were reviewed but not voted upon. The date of the next meeting was confirmed for Dec. 10, 2013 at 4:00 pm.

Finances: Amy recapped the issue brought up at the last Commission meeting regarding the wording of the goals and objectives relating to efficient use of funding. She recommended additional updates in wording which was further refined by those present, to be recommended at the upcoming Commission meeting. Data on the use and cost of the transportation system was reviewed: in the first quarter of FY'14, 165 riders received 2,472 one-way trips via WRTA ADA, fixed route bus and/or Safeway, at a total cost of \$5,237; the average cost to the Senior Center for a one-way trip was \$2.12 and the rider paid \$0.75; the \$30,000 allocation should be more than adequate to cover the year. Amy noted that due to the late hire of the Senior Services Program Assistant, an additional \$15,000 in State COA funding is available for allocation. This is not yet counting the State COA funds which may be vulnerable to a Governor's 9C reduction. Amy reviewed wish lists for additional funds requested by contracted service programs as well as internal needs, such as marketing. Steve made suggestions regarding public service announcements and Mathew suggested that marketing could also be effective with seniors calling into radio stations. Discussion will continue at the next meeting to result in eventual allocation recommendations. Amy also reported that the new clinic tenant is moving in slowly and there have been no changes in the status of development of the vacant space.

Operations: Staffing has stabilized, although Amy noted that the number of paid receptionist hours may need to be increased. The collaboration with the Division of Energy and Asset Management continues. Patty reported on the publication of the 2014 Fall Prevention Calendar and the distribution plan. She noted that the Veteran's Day event went very well with local WWII celebrities attending; tomorrow, a Cultural Commission grant funded program will be held, "Hear That Whistle Blow;" for Thanksgiving there will be our annual craft fair and the lunch/entertainment already has reached capacity in reservations; and the Winter holiday event will be held on December 11th.

The meeting adjourned at 5:00 pm.