

Report to Commission on Elder Affairs  
Senior Center Committee Meeting September 8, 2015

Present: Robin Bahr Casey-Chair; Theresa Eckstrom, Tom Cullinane, Gail Gail Schuyler, Patty Hainsworth, Amy Waters  
Absent: Chris Evans

Robin called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm. The minutes of July 14, 2015 were approved (m/s/a). The next meeting was confirmed for Tuesday Oct. 13, 4:00 pm.

Finances: Amy reported on and the committee discussed the following: FY'15 accounting is wrapped up; FY'16 tax levy is stable; State approved \$9/elder for COA Formula Grant so the Ascentria and Centro contract increases were awarded as planned; As there still remains over \$30,000 in contingency, the Committee entertained a request from the Elder Services Nutrition Program and approved a one-time allocation of \$4,815 (m/s/a); The PWTF WDPH Year 2 contract is expected to be awarded to the Senior Center for 4 months retroactive to 9/1/15; CDBG funding is being explored for the clinic and computer lab as well as an upgraded stove and black-out blinds which were already approved; The Binienda donation is being utilized to purchase new lobby furniture and volunteer recognition-an acknowledgement program will be scheduled for November; the Alzheimer's Association is planning to move to larger quarters but the date is not finalized; Seniors Helping Seniors has requested a move to a larger office and the Committee voted to recommend this at the same rate per square footage (m/s/a); The City Manager has received assurances that the parking lot will remain in use for the Senior Center and it is likely to be renovated in the Spring.

Operations: Amy reported that a 19 hour/week temporary program assistant has been hired and is working under the PWTF falls prevention grant; she also reported that an MSW intern from Boston College will be working at the Senior Center 2 days/week for 2 semesters.

Patty reported on the many other students assisting at the Center, including 150 Assumption College students who cleaned up our grounds; Patty also reported on: the new security system; the paving of Spurr Street; the Patio installation; the summer concert series; the book discussions; the innovative collaboration for the walking club trip; candidate's visits; evidence based programs; a new caregiver's program; and the change in the Senior Scoop format to be implemented.

Theresa confirmed she will fill in for Robin who cannot attend/chair the September Commission meeting. The meeting adjourned at 5:05 p.m.