

**Weston Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes  
April 16, 2020**

Present: Mignonne Murray (Director), Gerri Scoll (Chair), Marge Ackerman (Vice-Chair), Carol Ott, Wayne Johnson, Jane Donnelly, Leslye Fligor, Tom Nicholson, Betsey Boyd, Susan Ruskin Friend, Alice Benson, Vida Goldstein (Associate Member), Melissa Galton, Bob Froh

Absent: Prather Palmer, Teresa Young (Associate Member),

The meeting was called to order by Gerri Scoll (Chair), at 8:33am.

There were no resident concerns presented.

The minutes were reviewed and discussed. The minutes passed unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** The budget reports were reviewed. The Treasurer's Report passed unanimously.

**Director's Report:**

Mignonne discussed the current situation at the COA, with the town buildings closed due to the Coronavirus, the COA office is able to operate remotely. The staff meets several times a week via Zoom. Most services are being provided, staff are monitoring incoming phone calls and emails remotely, with appropriate staff members responding to needs and inquiries. Many of the weekly program offerings have moved to "online" Zoom sessions (including, but not limited to; limited exercise classes, a town manager session, various program offerings and cooking classes). Limited Van and ride assistance are available for important medical appointments.

Mignonne summarized the Formula Grant changes which were approved.

The annual Volunteer Appreciation luncheon has been cancelled. Several suggestions of ways to still recognize volunteers during this time were suggested, including sending e-cards to say thank you.

**Committee Reports:**

COA Housing – (Bob/Alice) An upcoming round table discussion of emerging housing needs (to be spearheaded by the COA Housing Committee, in partnership with the Affordable Housing Trust, to include all groups in town concerned with housing) has been postponed.

Needs Assessment – (Tom) On hold at this time.

Transportation – (Melissa/Gerri)

Met with Leon Gaumond to discuss past transportation challenges. Taxi usage hasn't stopped, but the number of ridership is down.

Regular Weston Shuttle service is suspended but rides for essential non-Covid related appointments are still available.

Community Connections – Originally scheduled for May, the 3-session program on navigating the health care system has been postponed. 1. Health Care System Entry, how first responders and emergency departments work. Presenters will include Fire Chief, David Soar, and the director of the Newton-Wellesley Emergency Room. 2. Discharge from the Hospital, problems encountered in transfer from hospital to home. A Springwell nurse with home care experience will be a presenter. 3. Insurance Coverage Problems, Michelle Gucciardi, the COA social worker and a SHINE counselor will discuss insurance coverage issues including out of network and long-term care coverage. They hope to reschedule these sessions when safe to do so.

Governance – (Marge)

- The slate was presented:
  - Marge Ackerman, Chair
  - Susan Friend, Vice Chair
  - Prather Palmer, Treasurer
  - Secretary, position vacant
- applications currently being accepted online for two open board positions

FCOA – (Betsey)

The Spring Appeal has been mailed. The FCOA Appeal was also posted on the Weston Community and the FCOA's Facebook pages. Given the current economic climate, Holly Tolley is concerned about donors' being unable to be as generous as they have in the past.

Springwell – (Wayne/Jean)

- Meals on Wheels are still being delivered and distributed through the COA

Meeting adjourned at 9:18 a.m.

**The next board meeting will be held on Thursday, May 21 at 8:30am.**