

Greenfield COA Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 16, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

at Greenfield Senior Center , 35 Pleasant Street

Present: Marsha Staples-Love, Chair; Janice Colbert, Vice Chair; Pat Jordan, Secretary; Dorothy Gagnon, Treasurer; Hope Macary, COA director

Meeting called to order at 2:00 p.m. by the chair.

Minutes from April 18 2019 meeting accepted as submitted

Treasurer: Petty Cash in balance

Communications from staff: Hope Macary shared a statistical report for Senior Center membership usage to date for fiscal year 19. Explained the ventilation upgrade is not the hood, just a mini-split for heating and cooling / humidity control. Director said she had received an outpouring of support for seniors from the community at large. Director is aware of a lot of correspondence directed to city officials with regard to budget and building use. Director suggests that we not get discouraged, but rather double-down on our efforts to advocate for our seniors. Director states she has invited all city councilors to Volunteer Recognition to try to get to know COA members and volunteers. She said she thought that's what John Zon would have done in this circumstance. She stated she did not expect them to drop everything to attend, but hoped the gesture would be well received, and that those who worked locally might stop in.

General discussion: Committee members discussed displeasure upon watching Ways and Means meeting on May 9, 2019. Members stated disappointment in the apparent lack of support, understanding, and overall disregard showed towards the senior community. Discussed the perceived lack of pay equity for seniors compared to veterans tax work off next year. Expressed frustration that city officials told the seniors during the building process that they would have priority building use. Why has that now changed? Seniors are feeling pushed aside.

Agenda Items for the May 23, 2019 COA Meeting:

1. Executive Comm. Report from May 16, 2019.
2. ByLaws Committee Report from May 22, 2019.
3. Building name discussion.
4. Food Service Program update
5. WMA Elder Care conference June 6, 2019 at Holyoke Comm. College
6. Senior Tax Work Off Program: discuss pay cut and number of participants reductions proposed for FY20.
7. NOTE: It is time for Nominating Committee to meet to discuss FY20 slate of officers, and new board member recruitment.

Meeting Adjourned at 2:30 p.m.

Minutes submitted by Hope Macary