

Harvard Council on Aging  
Board of Directors Meeting  
Tuesday, October 15, 2019  
Hildreth House

Present: Beth Williams, Bruce Dolimount, Chet Hooper, Fran Maiore,  
Guy Oliva, Carl Sciple, COA Director Debbie Thompson,  
recorder/alternate Connie Larrabee  
Select Board liaison Lucy Wallace, Select Board Chair Alice von Loesecke  
Absent: Lynne Musto-Pesa, Carol Lee Tonge, Cathy Walker

The meeting was convened at 4:01 p.m.

The minutes of the October 1, 2019 special meeting were approved as written.

**Treasurer's Report - Bruce Dolimount**

The account balances as of 9/30/19 are as follows:

Revolving Funds	\$ 8,597.30
MART	\$31,389.11
Payroll	\$105,302.93
Gift account	\$ 90,206.60 (\$7,000 reserved for kitchen)
Formula grant	- \$2,138.61 (grant not received yet)
New van costs	\$23,929.44

**Director's Report - Debbie Thompson**

In the past month the outreach department has worked with 26 individuals. It seems that many of our seniors are being diagnosed with Alzheimer's and other dementia-related conditions. We're having a special presentation in November by a dementia specialist, Margaret Perras, to discuss the difference between not remembering something and the true signs of dementia.

HILDRETH HOUSE VAN: The new COA van is now equipped with another handle on the doorway for ease in getting in and out. There seems to be no way to lower the back seats, which are high for some shorter riders. The COA offered the van to shuttle seniors between

parking at Hildreth House and the Oct. 12 flea market and apple festival on the Common, and plans to do so every year.

The October 5 Community Service Open House was a success and we look forward to making it an annual event.

We have not received the Formula Grant yet but are able to charge against it. The grant covers most of Jennifer's pay and part of Maria's, as well as our annual conference in October.

#### COMING EVENTS:

Wednesday, Oct. 30 SHINE open enrollment 10 am

Thursday, Oct. 31 Halloween Party 12 noon

Tuesday, Nov. 5 Margaret Perras, "Sometimes we all forget" 12:30 p.m.

Thursday, Nov. 14 Bob's turkey dinner at St. Theresa's 12 p.m.

Gift card: Maria delivered a \$100 gift card to a senior who bakes delicious desserts for Hildreth House meals all year. She was very appreciative and thanked the COA for its generosity.

There's been no word from Tim Bragan about Debbie's request to close Hildreth House on Thursday and Friday, Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>.

Debbie has an opportunity to go to London, England from Dec. 2 to Dec. 9, and the staff is willing to cover Hildreth House for that week.

#### **Public Comment:**

There were no comments from the public.

#### **Phase 2 Hildreth House:**

Lucy Wallace and Alice von Loesecke came to discuss the Select Board's objections to the Phase 2 plan, which had been raised at the Oct. 8 Select Board meeting. Primarily, Select Board members questioned the decision to separate the addition from the existing building. During a 40-minute discussion, Lucy and Alice listened as COA board members expressed anger and frustration at the Select Board's public criticism of the plan so late in the design process.

Alice pointed out that the plan will face similar scrutiny from the capital committee and the voters, who will want to know why the proposed

addition costs so much more and is so different from the previous plan for a two-story attached addition. She said the capital committee will want to know what it would cost to attach an addition to Hildreth House that would meet the COA's needs, including the cost of installing a sprinkler system in Hildreth House and doing what's necessary to meet seismic code requirements.

In response, Carl agreed to ask the architect what it would cost to get detailed cost estimates for a sprinkler system and seismic code compliance. The Phase 2 committee had decided to separate the buildings primarily to avoid adding the cost of Hildreth House improvements to the Phase 2 project.

If there is no money left of the original \$40,000 appropriation for design services, Lucy said the COA could ask for a Reserve Fund Transfer to pay for the new cost estimates. She said the Select Board would endorse such a request.

### **Housing Update– Lucy Wallace**

The Housing @ Hildreth Committee hasn't met all summer. The committee had been on hiatus pending the results of the Fire Station study. The Select Board has asked Rick Maiore to submit a final report on the committee's activities to date.

### **Program Committee – Beth Williams**

The committee is looking for ideas for programs and the people to work on them.

The meeting was adjourned at 6 p.m.

The next meeting of the COA Board of Directors is scheduled for Tuesday, November 19, 2019 at 4 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Connie Larrabee, recorder

\*\*\*\*\*

