**Council On Aging Minutes for May 9, 2018**

**Present**: David Dann, Susan Millinger, Linda Avis Scott. Absent, Melissa Makepeace-O’Neil and David Wheeler. Guests: Sally Fairfield, *Gezeette* editor; Christine Robinson, Recreation Committee.

Meeting called to order at 5:34 by David Dann.

**Minutes of April 11, 2018** were unanimously approved.

**Business:**

**Next issue of *Geezette*:** Contents*:*Sally Fairfield described the planned contents of the next issue. She plans a lead article on *Village Neighbors*; a piece on the search of Shelby Ashline of the *Recorder* for personal reminiscences about Shutesbury in the past; a schedule of the monthly activities sponsored by COA; an article about our retiring Police Chief, Tom Harding (an interview if possible); a schedule of the programs the Library is sponsoring; information on the rescheduled Senior Medicare Patrol program; the current status of Broadband; a piece on the new Recreation Committee’s activities and plans; a cartoon.

*Geezette* Schedule: The editor plans to show the next issue to the Committee at the June meeting, June 13. Folding Party on Wed June 20 at 5:30 p.m. The issue is expected to go to the P.O. on Thurs June 21.

**Discussion of the Budget**. $2,766.64 of our grant remains unspent. The chair reviewed how much has recently been spent, and is expected to be spent, during the remainder of the grant year.

*For Programs:* The COA gave $150 to the Recreation Committee which has not yet been spent. Christine Robinson was asked to have the Committee submit an invoice for this grant as soon as possible.

Library Director’s programs: Invoices have recently been submitted for $875 for programs which the COA is co-sponsoring (this includes the programs approved at the April meeting, and the funds earlier earmarked for Spring Yoga.)

MedRide and Foot Clinic together: approximately $250 already spent has not been reflected in the balance cited. MedRide and Foot Clinic together are expected to cost approximately $500 in the remainder of the grant year.

*For the Newsletter*: Third and last issue of year: cost est. $170.

*For Supplies:* $100

*Subtotal of grants and expenses not yet subtracted from COA’s line:* approximately $2,045 (to be subtracted from the balance of $2,766.64, leaving an estimated unspent balance of $721.64.)

*Additional request*: COA received a recent request from Mary Anne Antonellis, Library Director, for June programs: to support five weeks of Therapeutic Yoga classes ($250); another month of Strength Training for Seniors (this session to be intended for Beginners) ($300) and the Library acquisition of a pass to Historic Deerfield ($100). Total: $650. A motion was made to support these Library programs; it passed unanimously. Linda Avis Scott was asked to inform Mary Anne of the grant.

**Updates:** On Community Potlucks: There was very good attendance in May, and the usual excellent food. The event will continue throughout the summer months.

Schedule change: Because the primary in September and the election in November will occur on first Tuesdays, the COA decided to reschedule Community Potlucks to the second Tuesday in Sept. and Nov.

The Foot Clinic: 6-8 people come every month. The regular date change to the third Wednesday of the month seems to be going well. David Dann indicated his concern that Footcare by Nurses, which operates on a shoestring budget, loses income when people don’t show up without cancelling in advance. The company would need to institute a no-show fee; Shutesbury COA can’t institute one, The new nurse is Tricia.

MedRides: Rides are significantly down, due to the loss of two regulars. Instead of an average of eight rides a week, the average is now two. However, there are three new clients.

Village Neighbors hopes to roll out services in September or October. The PR committee, which had a handout at Town Meeting, is spearheading an information session.

Because the Ageing in Place Task Force is no longer meeting as an official town committee (given that Village Neighbors has become a multi-town community), it was agreed that it should be disbanded. David Dann will write up a report on the work of the Task Force to bring to COA on June 13th, and to the Select Board on June 26th.

The quarterly meeting of Village Neighbors organizers is here in Shutesbury at noon on May 17th. At this meeting the committees will present reports, and a grant report will be prepared. David told the COA members they are welcome to attend.

David Dann described the state organization of the 14 Village to Village communities in Massachusetts. There is a general meeting every month, alternating between in-person and conference calls. The four in Western Massachusetts (our Village Neighbors, Amherst, Northampton, and Northfield) are planning a regional meeting.

David commented that a lot has been accomplished and mentioned that at Town Meeting, two new members joined.

**Actions to be taken** (several additional actions have been mentioned above)**:**

*Membership*: The Council recommends that David Wheeler be reappointed; and that Melissa should be asked whether she wishes to continue. David will email Melissa.

Senior Medicare Patrol event: Linda will check to find a fall date on which to reschedule the event cancelled because of the weather forecast. She will let Sally know the new date for the *Gezeette.*

Linda will also let the Library Director know that her recent request for funding has been approved.

David will look into the Planning Committee’s grant.

David will email Becky about next year’s grant.

*Next Meeting: June 13th*

**Meeting adjourned, 6:38 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted, Susan Millinger, secretary