

The Sheffield Council on Aging

Minutes for February 8, 2010

By John-Arthur Miller, pro-tem

Present: COA members Natalie, Joan, Mary Ellen, Carol, Lovina, and Rosemarie

Members absent – Dick, Anne, Dawn

Also in attendance – J-A Miller, Director; Pauline Schuman-Friends President; Grace Campbell-volunteer and Building Committee representative

Director Miller chaired the meeting in the absence of a Chairman and began at 4:30

Minutes of last meeting – 12/14/09 – reviewed and approved

Treasurer's Report - approved

It was suggested and approved to move \$2000 from the “revolving account” to the Friends Account in order to earn a bit of interest and to build that account for new building needs. Director Miller also explained that the “revolving account” was just that and need not have a large balance.

The COA budget & expenses remain on line as forecasted. Percentage of unused balance seems low, due to the full expense for SBETC transportation has been paid for FY10

Program & Activities

Review and discussion on Feb. programming, with emphasis and plea for participation at 2/18 3rd Thurs potluck with Egyptian exchange student presentation and 2/25 rescheduled lunch with Berkshire Alzheimer's Partnership program

Building News Update

Grace Campbell reported that Barry Architects and Berkshire Housing (facilitating grant money) have met with Town Administrator and have formed a timetable for letting out bids in Feb/Mar and groundbreaking April/May. She also learned that the stimulus money has to be spent within 14 months of its being awarded – making deadline according to those rules – end of October beginning of November. She also mentioned there was talk of cost saving with different excavating plans by White Engineering of about \$20,000 dealing with improvements to catch basin and sewage handling.

Friends Update

Pauline reported that the Sheffield Cultural Council, chaired by Trudy Miller met with the Friends to announce that the Eagles Band (not to be confused with the High School) has been awarded a grant to perform on April 17. She suggested it be a fundraiser for the Friends. At their meeting the Friends agreed that Trudy will work with the band arrangements and Claudia Martin of the Friends will head up and work with other volunteers on advertising, securing venue, and other organizational needs. Pauline put out a plea for others to join in and help where they can.

Other Business discussion included an appeal for MOW drivers, SBECT scheduled meeting that J-A will attend on 2/23, final Bingo and Lunch on 3/1 at Claire Teague, and Advisory Council meeting and visit to MOW kitchen lunch preparation site in Lanesborough on 3/8.

Other discussion included a plea from Pauline for someone's stepping to the plate in support of the Director as Chair of COA and from J-A to individually think on ways of using each one's gifts to lead the community and its advocacy for seniors specifically in building staff, maintenance and programming for the new Senior Center Building. Meeting adjourned at 5:30.

The next COA meeting will be on Monday, March 8, at 4:30 pm