

## Belchertown Council on Aging

### Minutes for meeting on January 18, 2018

#### **Members**

Donna Bozoglos  
Robert Farrington  
Maura Guzik  
Diane Plante

#### **Guests**

William Korzenowski  
Esther Pierce

#### **Absent**

Brenda Aldrich  
Jim Dowling

Maura called the meeting to order at 5:58 pm.

#### Minutes

A motion was made by Donna B. and seconded by Robert F. to accept the minutes from Nov. 30, 2018. Motion passed Yes (4) NO (0).

#### Director's Report

Bill K. reported the following to the Council:

1. Retirement - The hiring process is going slowly and he will cover the Center until at least the end of February or until someone is hired whichever happens first. His official retirement date is March 1. He will be working part time in order to take care of the needs of the Center.
2. Mobility Assistance Program - \$8,000 has been spent on van repairs in the first 6 months of this fiscal year which is the whole years budget. He recommends that the new Director should apply for a grant to for possible replacement this spring. Competition for the grants has increased so there is no guarantee of receiving one. The item is also included in the Town's capital expenditures budget.

#### Supportive Day Program

Bill K. reported that the first 6 months of the fiscal year have been difficult for the program. Many clients have been absent on a regular basis. Per State regulations they can only be billed when they attend and the client to staff ratio has to be met. There is \$6,000 in reserves for the program. The Coordinator is paid by client fees and the aides and benefits for both are paid by the Town. Bill K. has concerns that the program could collapse by the end of the year without an increase in income. Some of the clients are from other area towns. He also

stated that the Coordinator requests that if the program should close that the families be given 60 day notice.

Maura G. stated that the program may have to end. Several options were discussed to keep it going including exploring obtaining money from the other towns and changing how the Coordinator is paid. A motion was made by Robert F. to table any action until more information is available and seconded by Donna B. Motion passed Yes (4) No (0).

Bill K. reported to the Council that the State is increasing dementia education to towns, including Police, Fire etc. and new funds may become available. He will be attending a meeting with EOEI on Feb. 8. He has sent a letter of intent to apply for a grant from Tufts to fund the program. Should know in Feb. if Belchertown can apply. Grants will be awarded in May.

### FY19 Budget

Bill K. gave an overview of the 2019 Budget.

The following items were discussed by the Council:

1. Radio expenses are \$200 a month. Robert F. questioned whether the Center could piggyback on the Police etc. The Council will explore new options to decrease costs.
2. Vehicle Maintenance is an issue with the newest van being a 2011. Robert F. stated that a request for proposal could be used to decrease maintenance costs.
3. IT - The IT Director has done nothing on new software. It is on hold.
4. Additional Staff- A motion was made by Robert F. to add a request to the budget for additional staff to include 3 – 20 hour positions- outreach worker assistant, volunteer coordinator and custodian. Maura G. stated that the new director will have their own priorities but The Council should move ahead with the requests. Motion passed Yes (4) No (0).

BSCCA Update No Report.

Comments from Liaison No Report.

Committee Reports No Reports.

### New Business

1. A Motion was made by Donna B. that the Director will sign the weekly payroll. Motion passed Yes (4) No (0).
2. The Secretary will send the minutes to the Town Clerk each month.
3. Maura G. requested that Bill K. give the Search Committee a list of attributes he feels a the new Director needs.  
Bill K. stated the following: Grant writing experience, Budget experience, Supportive- not a micro manager, a visionary leader.

Community Input- None.

A motion to adjourn was made by Robert F. and seconded by Donna B.  
Motion passed Yes (4) No (0).

Meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Diane Plante  
Secretary  
Belchertown Council on Aging