

**Council on Aging Meeting**  
**July 10, 2007**

**Attendance:** Becky Moriarty, Brian MacLeod, Rita Vail, Pat Clark, John Shay, Al Ouimet, Shirley Gouvan, Mary Malinski, Deanna Vermette and Virginia Schneider  
**Absent:** Karen Leger

Brian called **Meeting to Order @ 8.35 am.**  
**Minutes to previous meeting accepted.**

**Directors Report:**

- The Board of Selectmen has hired an engineering company to assess and determine requirements for senior center generator, supervise bids and installation. Becky will advise on progress.
- Luau will be rescheduled.
- Report accepted.

**Treasurers Report:** Reviewed and accepted.

**New Business:**

- Officers of the nomination committee Shirley Gouvan, Rita Vail and Deanna Vermette nominated the following officers for the Council's Board of Directors:

Brian MacLeod, Chairman, Pat Clark, Vice Chairman, Al Ouimet, Treasurer and Deanna Vermette, Secretary

- Becky presented each member of Council with an informational package that included documents covering the role and responsibilities of board members. The package included numerous documents including "A Guide for Board Members", an overview of Ch. 40, s.8B of the Massachusetts General Laws governing the Council on Aging, the Bylaws of the Hampden Council on Aging as well as a Board Self-Assessment Survey to help determine how well our Council is performing its duties.
- A significant increase in postage (cost has nearly tripled) has presented a budgetary problem for the delivery of the Scribe. This increase of \$450 - \$500 per month has at this time been supported by contributions from "The Friends" and private donations.

Members discussed various solutions. At the very least, the goal is to find a way to keep the Scribe mailed to all seniors in town (approximately 940) on a monthly basis, as opposed to mailing the Scribe to all current recipients every other month.

Becky will investigate the use of “sponsorship” in reducing delivery cost and if mentioning sponsors within the Scribe meets bulk mail guidelines. She will further check with the postmaster regarding the quantity/cost breakdowns for bulk mail delivery.

To date the Lions have donated the total cost of the paper used for the Scribe publication.

- Becky suggested that a “Scholarship Program” be incorporated to award seniors with sponsorship in Senior Center Activities. Rita will discuss at the Friends Meeting.
- Pat Clark put the Council on notice that the PVTa recently donated an old van to the Longmeadow Senior Center and the possibility of Hampden doing the same. Concerns were the cost of upkeep of an “old van” including insurance, staff increases as well as a dispatch needs. Pat will contact Karen Michelman of Longmeadow Senior Center to inquire as to process, costs, etc.
- Pat Clark noticed the lack of participation by the Council on Aging in the Memorial Day Parade. Shame on us, we will mark our calendars for next year’s event.
- The Council determined that we are unable to accommodate recent requests for the rental use of our Senior Center due to conflicts with current scheduled activities and the significant budget restraints that our center is currently experiencing. Both of the most recent requests one by The East Longmeadow Senior Center’s Bridge Group and a local dance studio would significantly increase maintenance and utility costs on an already challenged budget.

**Directors Certificate:** Please complete an evaluation for Becky and return to Brian Macleod for August meeting.

**Next meeting:** Tuesday, August 14, 2007.

Respectfully submitted:  
Mary Malinski, (Old) Secretary  
Hampden Senior Center