



TOWN OF EASTON  
**COUNCIL ON AGING**  
15 BARROWS STREET  
EASTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02356

Area Code 508  
238-3160

COA Meeting Minutes

January 21, 2010

The Easton Council on Aging met on Thursday, January 21, 2010 in the Conference Room of the Frothingham Hall Community Center, 15 Barrows Street, North Easton. Vice-chairwoman Nicolina Previti called the meeting to order at 9:35 am.

**Present:** Vice-chairwoman Nicolina Previti, Secretary Ethel Pomerleau, and members David Cudmore, Marie Healey and Jean Shearing.

**Absent:** Chairman Frank Spillane & member Rose Friedeborn. **Also present:** Dolores Kent, Director.

**Minutes and Finance report:** Mrs. Kent will forward a copy of the December 17, 2009 meeting minutes and the current finance report to members as soon as they are available.

**Programs:** Mrs. Kent reviewed the December and January programs including those coordinated by our Outreach Coordinator, Beverly Beavers. Mrs. Shearing asked the members to be on the lookout for a basic sewing machine with a zig zag stitch for the Swedish Weaving class. The members asked if the lunch program will be moving to Frothingham Hall. After a working kitchen is installed at Frothingham Hall, Mrs. Kent will approach the current lunch program participants to see if they would come to the lunch program if it were moved to Frothingham Hall. Currently, they want it to stay at Parker Terrace. Also, when a working kitchen is installed at the Hall, Mrs. Kent would like to offer Continental Breakfasts and light lunches (i.e. soup, salad, sandwiches) at reasonable prices for program participants. She has the appliances that were obtained through donations or the state surplus list, but needs to find a carpenter and plumber to install them at little or no cost. Mr. Cudmore offered to contact Dunkin Donuts for free day old donuts on a regular basis. Mrs. Pomerleau noted that the Stoughton COA director meets with the seniors weekly for a Coffee Hour and suggested that this might be a good thing for us to do in Easton. Mrs. Kent recommended having a single serving coffee maker in the waiting area, and requesting nominal donations that would cover the cost of supplies. Mr. Cudmore had information on single serving coffee makers and K-cup coffee that he would give to Mrs. Kent.

**Outreach:** Mrs. Beavers continued outreach efforts by sending COA program information packets to residents turning age 65 during the month.

**Volunteers:** There have been no changes in the volunteer program.

**Business:**

**FY 2011 Budget:** The Town Administrator directed all departments to submit a budget level funded to continue current programs. Considering there will be additional expenses to hold current programs in Frothingham Hall, Mrs. Kent incorporated ½ of the Hall's operating expenses for heat, lights, phones, security system, and trash removal into the budget with the other ½ to come from the Recreation Department budget.

**FY 2011 Budget (continued):** Mrs. Kent informed the council members that according to the Town Administrator's budget memo, we might be facing a 5% reduction in our budget for next year. With the added expenses of operating Frothingham Hall, the 5% possible budget reduction would actually be greater. This is just preliminary information, as there have been no budget hearings yet. Motion by Mrs. Previti, second by Mrs. Pomerleaul, to go on record as to not liking the possibility of a budget reduction as this will severely hamper the Council's ability to provide needed services and programs for our elderly residents. Vote: all in favor.

**Frothingham Hall expenses:** Much of the initial Frothingham Hall expenses for heat, lights, telephone, security system and trash removal will be paid by the DPW budget as there are no funds in the COA and Rec budgets to cover these expenses for the remainder of this fiscal year. Although, the Friends of Frothingham Hall, Inc; a non-profit group formed to help pay the costs of providing services and programs in the Hall, will be embarking on fund raising efforts to help with these costs as we move forward.

**Other:** Change in the regular meeting date for February. Mrs. Kent requested the members consider changing the February meeting date from the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday, February 11, 2010, as she will be on vacation during the 3<sup>rd</sup> week in February. Motion by Mr. Cudmore, second by Mrs. Shearing, to hold the next meeting on Thursday, February 11, 2010. Vote: all in favor.

Therefore, the next Council on Aging meeting will be held on Thursday, February 11, 2010 at 9:30 AM. in the Frothingham Hall Community Center, 15 Barrows Street, North Easton.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Mrs. Healey, second by Mrs. Previti, to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 am.  
Vote: All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Ethel Pomerleau, Secretary