

Ayer Council on Aging (COA) Board—Feasibility Study Informational Meeting
Held July 10, 2019 at 1:05 p.m. at The Center, 18 Pond Street, Ayer Massachusetts
Minutes compiled by Janine Nichipor, Acting Secretary

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In Attendance:

COA Director Karin Dynice-Swanfeldt
COA Outreach Coordinator Jean Wesinger
Chairperson Sister Paula McCrea
Acting Secretary Janine Nichipor
COA Board Member Kathryn Pfaltzgraff
COA Staff Member Jane Morriss on site working, answering calls, and helping a visitor.

AGENDA:

- Discuss future plans/needs for the new Council on Aging Center and Feasibility Study.
- This meeting was called as a follow up to the meeting of July 2, 2019 with Ayer Town Manager Robert Pontbriand, Assistant Town Manager Carly Antonellis, DPW Superintendent Mark Wetzel, Town Planner Alan; and COA Board members Karin Dynice-Swanfeldt, Sister Paula McCrea, Janine Nichipor, and Kathryn Pfaltzgraff.
- The COA Board has been charged with submitting an Informational Report to Assistant Town Manager Carly Antonellis by July 16 to help plan the new Center, addressing:
 - What we do now.
 - What we would like to do.
 - Ideas concerning the sites reviewed in aerial projections on July 2, and ideas for other sites.

ABACUS Architects & Planners background information distributed:

- Printout is titled, "Senior Center Feasibility Study, Town of Ayer, February 06, 2019".
- This publication contains information about Abacus, but has no information on The Ayer COA Center project or sites in Ayer.

FEASIBILITY STUDY SITES:

- COA Board discussed the sites in Ayer presented at the July 2 meeting.
- They were:
 - 1) 1868 Horn Building near Rail Trail (Mr. Raffi)
 - 2) Field across from Tiny's Restaurant (with trailers parked on land)
 - 3) The former Ross Building off Fitchburg Road (near river, vacant for 3 years)
 - 4) The "Toxic Site" of former dry cleaners (known illnesses caused here)
 - 5) Abandoned Maxant Building near the DPW and old RR tracks (dark)
 - 6) The lower part of the current Page Hilltop Elementary School (not yet vacant)
 - 7) Near I.C. Credit Union (exact location not clear)
- Board's impression was that many of these sites were not appropriate for the new Center.
- Janine presented another possibility. As a former resident of Devens, she knows that Mass Development has supported other projects, and are interested in community development. She reached out to Mass Development, and a representative would like to meet with the COA Board to discuss possibilities. The COA Board is willing to do this

and will proceed to set up a meeting at the Center to tour the current facilities and start a conversation. (TBD)

Publicity, COA Branding

- COA Facebook page has been updated and looks good! Karin will work to deactivate the old page with Cindy Cox, though Facebook has sluggish customer service and may take a while.
- We have permission from the Town to pursue a COA logo for recognizability. Janine will work on a draft.
- COA will print low-cost business cards to have on hand for contacts as we go forth contacting and talking to people about the new Center.

The Ayer COA Informational Report due July 16, 2019

- Sister Paula submitted written lists on the topics mentioned above (A-C).
- The COA Board commended her efforts and discussed them.
- See Ayer COA Informational Report for New Center dated July 16, 2019

Adjournment: At 3:00 p.m.

J. Mich 7/2019