

## Meeting Minutes

### First Meeting of the Lynnfield Senior Citizen Advisory Council

Meeting Date: Thursday, October 19, 2017

Location: Lynnfield Senior Center, Salem Street, Lynnfield

Present: Christopher Goguen, Chair  
Betty Iacono  
Robert Zwolinski  
Christopher Barrett  
David Mayerson  
Fred Santangelo  
Georgann Lieb  
Gerald Shulman  
Julie Mallett  
Katherine Flaws  
Linda Naccara  
Pam Fine  
Patricia Campbell  
Raymond Boly  
Richard Sjoberg  
Marjorie Generazzo

Chairman Goguen opened the meeting at 5:00 pm.

Members were asked to briefly introduce themselves individually.

The SCAC discussed the purpose of the group generally. Selectman Barrett provided an explanation for the creation of the SCAC which is not to replace or supplant the excellent contributions made by the Lynnfield Senior Center, but rather to identify current problems and issues specific to senior citizens in our community and to make policy suggestions to the Board of Selectman after eliciting input from all stakeholders, examining all currently existing resources and recommending a course of action.

The goal of the SCAC will be to serve as an effective tool for senior citizens and make specific policy recommendations to the Board of Selectmen within the next two months. The group discussed the need to share ideas, provide transparency and seek input from seniors as well as the various town departments.

Gerry Shulman raised the issue of emergency housing resources for elderly and disabled and provided the example of a homeless man who had been living at Market Street. Mr. Shulman questioned whether the town could provide emergency housing.

Linda Naccara, the Director of the Lynnfield Senior Center, spoke to the current resources offered by Greater Lynn Senior Services including housing and caregiver support with respect to Alzheimer's Disease.

The possibility of obtaining additional training for first responders in situations involving those with mental incapacity, such as dementia, was raised.

Julie Maillett, the Director of Recreation and Rich Sjoberg, a member of the Recreation Commission, both spoke to their interest in broadening the scope of their event and activity planning to reach all age groups in Lynnfield, including seniors, and the potential for coordinating with the Senior Center with the goal of integrating programs offered for school age children with seniors.

Selectman Barrett agreed to obtain statistical, non-identifying information about the numbers of individuals residing in town in different age brackets such as 65 to 70, 70 to 80, 80 to 85 and those over 85 who may be less able to avail themselves of current services offered at the Senior Center.

Mr. Goguen thanked Pat Campbell for preliminary work she had done in obtaining information regarding the Senior Citizen Property Tax Relief measure recently passed by the Town of Reading that increases the relief available under the state law known as the "circuit breaker credit," General Law chapter 62, § 6. Ms. Campbell explained that some seniors in town, who would otherwise have remained at home, have sold due to the high real estate tax and that the current relief is not meaningful for those on a fixed income. Ms. Campbell further explained that Reading recently joined Wayland and Sudbury as municipalities that increased relief offered to seniors in an effort to preserve generational diversity in those communities.

Dave Mayerson, the Chair of Lynnfield Initiatives for Elders, Inc., ("L.I.F.E.") provided context regarding the current availability of market rate condominium units for those 65 and over in Lynnfield as L.I.F.E. currently has a waiting list of over 400.

Mr. Shulman, the Vice Chair of the Housing Authority, discussed the subsidized housing for those over 65 or disabled which also has waiting lists.

Ms. Campbell raised the issue of emergency services and communication to seniors regarding shelter availability in case of severe weather. Ms. Maillet explained the current Code Red program instituted by the Police and Fire Departments; residents are able to register their phone numbers and email addresses to receive automatic alerts about storm warnings and available shelters. The Senior Center coordinates directly with Chief Breen in advance of severe weather events.

Mr. Goguen proposed creating sub-committees within the SCAC. The Financial sub-committee will be comprised of Mr. Goguen, Ms. Campbell and Katherine Flaws.

The Health and Recreation sub-committee will be made up of Ms. Nacarra, Ms. Maillett, Mr. Sjoberg and Georgeann Lieb.

The Housing sub-committee includes Mr. Shulman, Ms. Flaws and Robert Zwolinski.

The members voted to confirm Mr. Goguen as the SCAC Chair. Ms. Campbell was elected Vice Chair. The members decided to rotate the role of serving as Secretary to record notes of each meeting.

Mr. Goguen proposed holding a monthly meeting at 5:30 pm on the second Wednesday of each month.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 pm by Mr. Goguen.

Notes taken by Katherine Flaws