

MINUTES

Council on Aging Grounds Committee

Minutes

May 14, 2015

Senior Center 230 Webster St., Marshfield, Ma 02050

ATTENDANCE: Martine Anderson, Carol Hamilton Tom Paine, and Bill Lyons.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 12:50 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Marine makes a motion to accept the minutes of March 26, 2015 and Tom seconds, Bill abstains and motion passes. Marine makes a motion to accept the minutes of April 9 2015 and Tom seconds. Motion passes.

DISCUSSION:

The One Heart Many Hands event was a success. We had 8 students from the high school that were mostly female with some of their parents present. We completed a portion of the jobs such as mulching, trimming and weeding various areas but we did not complete all of them. Are there any community service groups that could help us to finish the task such as the Key Club? What resources would it take to complete the work? The committee believes that we need 4 volunteers and 4 hours more worth of work to get everything done. Someone asked if the pre-emergence treatment had been done on the patio as yet. We have requested it, but we have not had an invoice saying that it was completed. This will help control the weeds.

Could we recruit younger people and the COA grounds volunteers would supervise? We need to use up the mulch and not let it sit. ? It seems to be getting more difficult to maintain the grounds with volunteers as there are physical limitations for the older population. The other issue is maintaining design continuity of the property and keeping with a low maintenance design.

Carol has spoken to Gwen Frazier who has a gardening and design background. They discussed the overall appearance of the property and talked about options for maintaining the grounds. The Daniel Webster Estate property has the same concerns and uses both volunteers and outside consultants. We also discussed local companies with expertise to assist us in the future. Martine has tried to reach out to various businesses in the community but has not gotten any definitive response. Some of the companies that we discussed were Kennedy's, Ground Effects, Global Green, and Tomasi's.

The group felt that another project for the grounds or the COA might be to clear more trails out back. Adding more useable trails to the property would attract more people to the site. Would trails come under the jurisdiction of the Conservation Department? Is there a trails committee?

Martine has called South Shore Signs to look into the signs for the dog disposal receptacles. They have not returned her call. We would like 2 to 3 signs on the property. Carol will try calling South Shore Signs again to inquire. Bill Scott has previously taken pictures of the receptacles in other locations.

The Committee also discussed the progress of phase one and phase two of the outdoor recreation projects. One of the members suggested that the park be fun and colorful, even if it mostly for adults.

NEXT MEETING: The next meeting will be on Friday, June 19th 2015.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting was adjourned at 1:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Carol Hamilton, Director Council on Aging