

## Preston Senior Affairs Committee

The April 2, 2019 Preston Senior Affairs Committee meeting was called to order by Chairman Elizabeth Bassette at 1:02 p.m. Members in attendance included Elizabeth Bassette, MaryLou Jensen, Morris Fishbone, Marie Perrin and Frances Minor.

**Minutes:** MaryLou Jensen made a motion to accept the March 5, 2019 meeting minutes as presented. Motion seconded by M. Fishbone. Motion approved.

**Correspondence:** No correspondence was presented.

**Financial report:** F. Minor provided an overview of the March expenditures with particular attention given to the potential shortfalls in Line Item(s) 9-Senior Center Staff and Line Item 13-Electricity. Increased expenditures for both line items are the direct result of special programming including our tax preparation service and benefits counseling program. Conversation surfaced regarding outstanding repair projects at the senior center including: the installation of a motion detector light for the rear entrance to the building, replacement of gutters/downspouts, pavement repairs to the parking areas, new handicapped parking signage, painting, etc. With no further discussion, a motion to accept the Financial report was made by M. Perrin and seconded by M. Fishbone. Motion approved.

### **Old Business:**

- a. Fiscal Budget 2019-2010 update: No further action has been addressed by the Board of Selectmen as of this date. The Board of Finance is scheduled to review the general government budget later this week.
- b. Unused Medication Disposal: Discussions were conducted between First Selectman Robert Congdon, Fire Chief Tom Casey and Fran Minor regarding the creation of an unused medication disposal site within the town. Additional information will be gathered regarding the collection of non-narcotics, narcotics, location of collection site, responsible parties to oversee the program, transport of collection, cost, etc. Discussions are ongoing. When finalized, a news blitz will be created to inform local residents of the service.
- c. Transportation Addendum: Two areas of oversight were discussed concerning our current Transportation Policy. For the purpose of meeting ADA regulations, language was developed addressing the inclusion of accompanying Service Animals within our transportation service. Prior to honoring requests for transportation with Service Animals, proof of license and valid distemper/rabies inoculation will be requested. The prospective rider must validate the provision of the Transportation Addendum pertaining to the inclusion of Service Animals.

Secondly, a more stringent expulsion stipulation was developed superseding the one-week expulsion previously adopted in our policy. The new policy will adopt "an expulsion for an indefinite period of time, effective immediately". The request for expulsion will be made to and decided upon by the Preston Senior Affairs Committee. Lengthy discussions were aired concerning passenger/staff safety considerations. Motion was made by M. Fishbone to accept the Transportation Addendum. Motion seconded by ML. Jensen. Motion passed.

**New Business:** Motion by M. Fishbone to add Uncas Health District to our agenda. Motion seconded by F. Minor. Motion approved.

a. Program Updates: The AARP Tax Assistance Program has had an upsurge in participation. The volunteer counselors have worked tirelessly to accommodate the volume of requests of assistance. Additional support staff has been added to the schedule to oversee the senior center facilities and address emergency situations.

b. Uncas Health District: The Town of Preston is contemplating joining the Uncas Health District in the upcoming fiscal year. The change will directly impact the Congregate Meal Program as we will be required to apply for a license to operate the program. F. Minor has discussed the matter with the TVCCA Nutrition supervisor. The projected cost will be approximately \$100.00 for the license. This is not a budgeted item but will be addressed at length at our upcoming meeting when the town has an opportunity to vote on joining Uncas Health District and more information will become available.

**Public Comment:** No public present.

**Executive Session:** The Executive Session for personnel matters was not conducted.

Marie Perrin made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:02 p.m. Motion seconded by M. Fishbone. Motion approved.

Respectfully submitted by,

Frances Minor