

COA Meeting Minutes
30 November 2017 9:30 AM

1. Meeting opened at 9:35 am
2. Attendance
Present: Terry Allen, Judy Hobart, Thom Masterton, Sue Swartz, Sue Nagy and Fay Zipkowitz
Absent: Dave Evans, JR, Jennifer Glover
3. Approved Minutes for 19 October 2017 meeting – Thom moved, Judy seconded.
4. Events
 - a. Transfer Station – 4 November 2017 – Jennifer told Terry that she set up her table for 2 hours and collected some donations for SHINE.
She spoke to Michael Dover from the Alliance Group about their wanting to set up an informal neighborhood support group for town elders. Terry suggested maybe we should invite him to our next COA meeting.
 - b. Cap-Tel – JR went to a meeting at UMass about Cap-Tel. Thom said his experience with a caption system like this proved it was not that accurate turning conversation into text.
 - c. Village Neighbors – Thom sent out his Newsletter article, a very simple description of the program with no promises of what services might be available.
Both the Selectboard and the Library agreed to waive fees for using their space for future meetings.
The Northampton Neighbors does not charge membership fees, but relies on fund raising. The group Thom is working to set up for Leverett would be all volunteers and charge a membership fee, which would be waived if someone said they could not afford it. He is working to register the group as a corporation with the State to get a tax number and then continue on to apply for non-profit status with the federal government. The membership fees would be used to pay for liability insurance, software costs, and other costs.
5. New Business – none
6. Membership – Fay agreed to become an associate member of the COA. Thom moved we accept and Judy seconded.
7. Terry asked if there was a listing of people in Leverett needing medical assistance. Both Sue Nagy and Fay said that there is such a list, but because of privacy laws it cannot be accessed by the COA. Sue Nagy said she would talk to the Fire Chief to find out what protocols are in place for the First Responders when emergencies like power failures, etc. occur. Fay agreed that we could ask in the Newsletter if anyone wanted help.
8. Next meeting – 25 January 2018 at 9:30AM
9. Thom moved we adjourn at 10:25 AM, Judy seconded.