Members present: Kathy Bothwick, Steve Gillespie (chair), Allison Gustavson, Mary Hull, Su Kwedor, Mary Ann McGovern, George Nickless, and Deb Fraize (secretary)

Members absent: None

Staff present: Nancy Hammond

Friends of COA present: Andrea Morgan

Call to Order. Steve called the meeting to order.

Those present took a moment of silence to acknowledge the recent losses to the community.

In memoriam

James Deveney
Steve Dodge
Robert Howard, DMD
Alice Morgan
Richard Silva

Secretary’s Report. The minutes of January 2019 meeting were reviewed and unanimously approved.

Director’s Report. Nancy reported that/on:

Among the recent senior activities, the Council on Aging did a trip to Salem today, is doing three trips a week to Market Basket, is looking into starting a bowling club with Gloucester, and is sponsoring a walking program for seniors to raise money and stay active.

• Budget and expenditures as of January 31, 2019, which align, except for the $1,000 van repairs. Nancy noted that we can work with the finance committee later in the year to make adjustments on that, if need be.

• No news on the proposed senior center.

• Pending $500 donation from Paul Barclay, owner of 7 Central, for wooden fox sold when his restaurant closed last month.

• Discussions with the Town of Essex continue regarding shared town services. A third-party consultant is meeting with department heads tomorrow.

Questions were asked about donations made by van riders. Nancy responded that the majority of regular users of the van services make a small donation each trip.
In response to other questions regarding resources, Nancy noted that 35% of the current population of Manchester is over 60 and that number is projected to be 40% by 2035.

**Friends Report.** Andrea Morgan reported that the Friends (due to inclement weather) have not met since our board last meeting in January; thus, there was little new activity to report. However, the Friends did send out a follow-up mailing of the year-end annual appeal letter, which resulted in 29 additional donations (including five new donors). Sue noted that the Friends were meeting later this month.

**Other Business.** Allison announced that she and her family were moving to Colorado (where her husband had accepted a job). This would mean she will be stepping off the board at the end of June. Members shared their congratulations, but also noted their sadness that she would no longer be a part of the board.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:00 pm.

These minutes approved at the 5/8/2019 meeting.