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October 23, 2007

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
ON SENIOR SERVICES

The Committee on Senior Services met on October 23, 2007, with Chairman William White, presiding and Committee Member Alderman Dennis Sullivan also present and voting. Also present were Alderman Sean O'Donovan, Cindy Hickey from the Council on Aging and several residents from the VNA.

The committee met at the VNA Senior residence to afford residents an opportunity to discuss matters of concern with the committee members. Chairman White explained that the committee was formed by the Board of Aldermen to address matters of concern to the city's senior citizens.

Alderman Sullivan told the residents that the city would be implementing a revolving fund to address pedestrian issues at all of the city's senior residences and Chairman White reviewed the Council on Aging's ARE-YOU-OK program.

Residents complained about the service being provided by Green Cab and were told by the committee to contact Ms. Hickey with the cab number and the driver's name, anytime they experience a problem. Ms. Hickey stated that she would arrange a time for Cheryl Horan, of Green Cab, to meet with the residents to discuss the problems.

The residents told the members that the transportation service offered by SCM is not acceptable, as SCM requires a 2-week advance notice for rides. The members were told that the Cambridge/Somerville Elder Services provides excellent transportation without the 2-week advance notice. Alderman O'Donovan told the residents that he and the committee would work with Ms. Hickey to secure information on the Cambridge/Somerville Elder Services transportation program and provide that information, in writing, to them. Ms. Hickey asked that any resident having a problem securing transportation contact her for assistance.

Residents also raised concern over the speeding traffic on Lowell Street and asked if traffic lights or other traffic calming measures might be installed. Alderman O'Donovan stated that he would submit an order directing the Traffic and Parking Department to explore the options available to rectify the situation.

No papers were acted on.

Alderman William A. White, Jr., Chairman
Committee on Senior Services

COMMITTEE REPORT

Report of the Committee on Senior Services,
October 23, 2007

In Board of Aldermen

Clerk