

**TOWN OF SUDBURY  
COUNCIL ON AGING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
June 03, 2014**

WEBSITE <http://sudbury.ma.us/departments/CouncilOnAging/>

**Present:** Chairman: Jack Ryan

Bob Diefenbacher, Debra Galloway, Robert May, Sam Merra, John Beeler, Patricia Tabloski, Barry David, and Carmine Gentile

Potential Members awaiting Selectman appointment: Elizabeth Ingersoll and Alice Sapienza were present.

Absent: Phyllis Bialy

Meeting called to order by Chairman Jack Ryan at 3:00 PM.

Minutes of May 06, 2014 were approved.

**Guest: Jim Kupfer, assistant Town Planner**

Topic: Small Grants program: This is program for up to \$3000 per grant for safety or health improvements to individual homes. Basic

Requirements are : Sudbury resident and meets income guidelines.

Jim asked for assistance is getting the program better visibility to Sudbury seniors.

**Suggestions offered were:**

Distribute flyers to our bus and FISH drivers for sharing, add article (s) in the newsletter, Link to “fix-it” help, if possible broaden the program by linking to Mass SAVE and their much larger resources, perhaps use the grants whenever smoke detectors are needed, link to fire department where they become aware of a need, more ideas like this are welcome from all.

Topic: the Malone property and latest plan. Jim will forward the latest housing plan which is also on the website of the Planning Department.

Topic: the broader issue of COA continuing to be a leader in planning for housing in Sudbury is again in the fore front. We cannot lose focus on this major issue.

**Director’s Report**

\*Director reported on:

1. Several of the upcoming June events as well as the many programs in April.
  2. Staffing is an immediate issue as the Director is starting to interview candidates for the Program Coordinator position.  
Barry, Bob D. , and Alice all volunteered to aid the Director in any suitable way.
3. The Director’s continued discussions with the Park and Rec Director and discussed possible changes to Teen center.

**Chairperson’s Report**

\* While no major changes in direction this month, The Fairbanks renewal project moves forward with patching the roof over the School HQ made at Town meeting. More meetings on several design options to be held in the next weeks.

**Baypath Update: Carmine.**

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Carmin has the responsibilities for the COA in June, 2014. Carmin reported that Baypath has doubled their personnel up to approx. 100 in the past year. These added resources we hope will aid in the delivery of programs for Sudbury Seniors.

**Strategic Planning Meeting Deferred.**

Final date and time to be set after the new members of COA join in June or July.

**Bridges Report**—Bob D.

COA discussed that we must increase our leadership to save the program. Bob D. will draft letter for Jack to send to the School committee and copy the Superintendent. The letters scope is to be from both active parents and the COA to aid in reinforcing the value of the program. The letter may propose a managed and structured one year evaluation of the program to develop guidelines for its future .

**Property Tax Work-off---**Sam Merra and John Beeler

The program is resourced in the town budget to support fifty(50) seniors and seventeen (17) veterans. This is fully staffed now and the individuals support twenty (20) town departments. The new administrator is doing a great job to support these volunteers and the departments.

Sam and John presently plan to stay involved to assist outside of any other COA focused resources.

**New Business**

We continue to seek more ideas for honoring volunteers who aid our seniors on a regular basis.

**Next Meeting:**

**The next COA meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, July 15, 2014 at 3:00pm in the Senior Center.**

A vote for Adjournment was unanimous at 5:05 pm.

Submitted by:

Bob May, Secretary

Version 07.10.2014 Attachment One: Future Items

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**ATTACHMENT 1**

**Possible Agenda Items for future COA meetings**

UPDATED July 05,2014, 2014

**Carry Overs**

<u>First discussed</u> =====	<u>Topic</u> =====
September, 2013	Updating of Newsletter process and Website. Boston Cane nominee
October 2, 2012	Town of Sudbury 375 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Active planning underway March , 2014 COA recommits to do a Float
January 7, 2014	COA must review the purpose and scope of the Annual Senior Luncheon.
March, 2014	Strategy with the MWRTA. What do we need from them?
May , 2014	COA asked Nominating committee for recommendations for improvement in the process as it always feels rushed and many of the COA do not get inputs.
June, 2014	Action: Don was to suggest to the Friends that a “web master” be appointed to allow for straight line communications with the COA and the Director as to our content that we would like on the Website. After the Web Master is identified, Bob May will work with the director to get selected content regarding Senior Center activities onto the website. The goal is to add this Website as another channel of information sharing to our interested senior population using the Web. The COA asked the Director to insure that the Friends Website got proper space in the monthly newsletter when these changes are in place.
June 2014	Stabilizing Bridges program

**Senior Center Major Projects**

- \*Support staff planning. See Deb request above.
- \*Volunteers, Volunteers!
- \* Fairbanks Facility Planning

**COA Responsibilities**

- \* Long Range Funding plan—Barry and Bob May

**Other Affinity Assignments**

<u>Area of Interest for COA</u>	<u>COA Member(s)</u>
Community Outreach (Use of TV)	John Beeler and Bob May

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Senior Housing Advocacy  
Intergenerational work  
to keep it active.  
Community Center Planning

Carmine Gentile, and Barry David  
Bob Diefenbacher-- This requires a steady focus on Bob's part

Jack Ryan and Barry David

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