

TOWN OF SUDBURY
COUNCIL ON AGING
MINUTES OF MEETING
December 10, 2019

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

Present: Chairman: John Beeler

Members: Connie Steward, Patricia Tabloski, Sandy Lasky, Amy Unckless, Jeff Levine, Bob Lieberman

Excused: Connie Steward, Carolyn Markuson

Guests: Lilly Turner, Ralph Taylor, Jack Ryan, Jennifer Roberts (BOS member), Mara Huston (Park and Rec Commission)

Meeting called to order by Chairman John Beeler at 3:07 PM

Minutes of November 12, 2019 unanimously approved.

Director's Report: (Galloway)-

See attached report.

2020 Budget Narrative

Deb Galloway presented her draft narrative for the 2020 Senior Center budget including Forms 1 and 2. A discussion ensued. Motion to approve the narrative including Forms 1 and 2 as amended was seconded and approved as follows:

Motion

Motion to approve FORM1 as amended in the meeting to include a total budget request of approximately \$320,000 which fully funded all current positions. Also included was a request that the town would pay for monthly mailing of the "Senior Scene" bulletin.

Chairman's Report

Motion Pending re: Priority goal of the COA to publicize Fairbank Community Center needs – Discussion of COA's priority goal for 2019-20: the planning and implementation of an informational and educational program for all Sudbury residents regarding the current conditions of the existing Fairbank Community Center and the future program and office needs of the Sudbury Senior Center; one of three occupants of the Fairbank Community Center. While planning for a new Community Center is in progress, the COA will engage in the education of Sudbury residents and seek suggestions and recommendations to increase voter participation and attendance at the May 2020 Town meeting ensuring the voices of all town residents will be heard. (Beeler) Tabled until the next meeting.

BayPath (Tabloski): Christine Alessandro, Chief Executive, has announced her retirement as of June 30, 2020. Name change to reflect broader age groups being served is in the final stages.

COA Webpage Content (Galloway): Ideas are sought for the COA webpage. Debra requested new ideas for updates be sent to her.

Dementia Friendly Update (Galloway) – See Director’s Report. No further update.

Transportation: (Lasky/Galloway) – see these links to the Sudbury Transportation Committee:

12.09 Agenda

https://sudbury.ma.us/transportation/wp-content/uploads/sites/391/2019/12/SudburyTransportationCommittee_2019_Dec_09_agenda.pdf?version=06efa774ab8e5d9613cdbc2df43aec12; AND

11.19.2019 Minutes

https://sudbury.ma.us/transportation/wp-content/uploads/sites/391/2019/12/SudburyTransportationCommittee_2019_Nov_19_minutes.pdf?version=4ab030cbce96c52999345048cb6eb109

Fairbank Community Center (Beeler/Levine)- A Citizens petition has been created and probably registered. It will be presented at January 2, 2020 Special Town Meeting. Copy of which is attached. There will be a motion offered at that special town meeting to Indefinitely Postpone for the reason that preparation of all relevant committees is not possible by January 2, 2020. A discussion of the consequences of the petition and its potential postponement took place.

After a comprehensive discussion regarding the status of Fairbank Working Group progress and the recent submittal of a Citizens petition requested funding of the Nov 19, 2019 design and construction proposal by ICON Associates at a January 2, 2020 special town meeting, the COA created the following motion:

COA supports the design and construction proposal of the Fairbank Working Group presented by the ICON and Associates at the Joint Meeting of the COA, SPS, and Park and Recreation, and the Board of Selectmen on November 19, 2019. In addition the COA will support a motion for Indefinite Postponement of Article 3 (Citizen’s Petition) of the Special Town Meeting of January 2, 2020 so to allow for added education for the citizens of Sudbury, and all relevant committees or town staff as to the purpose and resources needed to deliver the services proposed by the November 19, 2019 Fairbank Community Center proposal.

Discussion ensued about the possibility of petitioning for a special town meeting within the May 2, 2020 Town Meeting to be either held earlier in an evening or Saturday morning during daylight hours so that older adults or others who may be hesitant to drive at night or who may not be able to attend at just anytime during a night can participate in the vote. Jennifer Roberts indicated she would lead a discussion of the subject of a special town meeting within the May Meeting at a BOS meeting soon.

New Associate Members:

Jack Ryan and Carmine Gentile were proposed as Associate Members.

A vote for Adjournment was unanimous at 4:40 PM Motion: Levine, Seconded: Lasky.

Next scheduled meeting January 14, 2020 at 3:00 PM at the Senior Center.

Respectfully Submitted:

Robert May
Secretary

COA Meeting - Director's Report: Dec. 10, 2019

Community Center

I attended the 2 special evening meetings regarding the Fairbank Community Center: a meeting with the Park and Recreation Commission and Sudbury Public School Committee/Department on November 7, and a meeting with the Board of Selectmen including the COA (Council on Aging), Park and Recreation Commission and School Committee on November 19. Both meetings were videotaped and included the architectural firm's presentation of an agreed upon conceptual plan for the Fairbank Community Center.

For the Senior Center, the new plan includes an increase from 2 dedicated program rooms (1,532 SF now) to 3 dedicated program rooms (1,800 SF), as well as a large shared multi-purpose room (3,000 SF), a shared Arts and Crafts room (1,000 SF), a shared commercial kitchen (650 SF) and a shared Fitness room (1,000 SF). The plan is to have Senior Center priority over the shared space from 9:00-4:00 Monday – Friday, with some exceptions: occasional earlier or later programming.

Town Forum

I attended the Broadacre Farm forum on November 21 at 6:30 PM.

Transportation Committee

The Transportation Committee continues its work. The Committee reviewed and provided feedback to the latest version of the Uber/Town service agreement at the meeting on Nov. 19. The Committee met again on December 9; discussed a few more changes to the service agreement with Uber. The Committee members also performed a "run through" of the registration process. The next meeting will be held on Friday, January 3 at 9:30 AM at the Police Station training room.

Dementia Friendly

The Dementia Friendly Sudbury Action Team met in November following the successful Dementia Friendly Sudbury Kickoff event on November 12. The Team discussed follow-up to the Kick-off, how to reach out to more Sudbury businesses, and made plans to offer more trainings. A Dementia Information session training is scheduled for Dec. 5. The Team will meet again on Tuesday, Dec. 17 at 1:30 PM at Bridges by Epoch Memory Care.

Participation at the Senior Center

Using our MySeniorCenter database, I was able to figure out how many new participants have attended a program or received a service in the last fiscal year, and the last quarter. These numbers are lower than actual numbers, due to the fact that some participants do not sign in to programs. However, I would say that they are significant and demonstrate the engagement of many older adults with the Senior Center either with a program, a service provided or an event participated in.

312 new participants in FY 19

119 new participants in the first quarter FY 2020

We estimate that during FY 2019, we served **1,850 participants**, with over 24,000 units of service (Unit of Service = participation in one lifelong learning or arts or other class, one fitness class, a special event, or receiving a service such as Fix-it help, a home delivered meal, a friendly visit, or a sand bucket).

According to the Town Census:

2019

Total pop. 18,442

60+ population = 4,253

60+ = 23% of total

2010

Total Pop. 18,015

60+ population = 3130

60+ = 17% of total

Program Evaluations

The Senior Center is providing participants with an opportunity to evaluate programs during the months of December and January. We started with the large history class (60 participants) that has run all fall until this week – “Understanding Russia” – a DVD series from *The Great Courses*. So far 25 evaluations have been submitted. Overall, the evaluations are highly complimentary of the class, with many indicating that the program is excellent, and that they also enjoyed the volunteer facilitators commentary. A number of people suggested that a larger room was needed for the number of people enrolled. Suggestions for future programs included: more art and science classes, live instructors vs. DVDs, and Egypt: Ancient and Modern History, North and South Korea: Modern History and Contrasts.

Submitted by Debra Galloway, Director, Sudbury Senior Center

CITIZEN'S PETITION

TOWN OF SUDBURY: Petition to Add Article to upcoming Special Town Meeting

WE, THE UNDERSIGNED REGISTERED VOTERS OF THE TOWN OF SUDBURY HEREBY PETITION THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN TO ADD THE FOLLOWING ARTICLE(S) TO THE WARRANT OF THE UPCOMING, JANUARY 2, 2020, SPECIAL TOWN MEETING:

100 CERTIFIED SIGNATURES of registered voters (signed exactly as registered) with their full residence address are required to add these Article(s) to the upcoming Special Town Meeting Warrant. **FILING DEADLINE Selectmen's Office Mon Dec 2, Opens 8:30 Stamped in by 9AM**

Petition Article requested for action at the January 2, 2019 meeting:

NEW SUDBURY COMMUNITY CENTER - \$27.7 MILLION FOR DESIGN, CONSTRUCTION AND FURNISHING

To see if the town will vote to raise and appropriate the sum of \$27.7 Million for a new Sudbury Community Center contain a new Senior Center, Park & Recreation Center, new SPS School Administration Offices and, a renovated Aquatics Center. Said sum to be expended under the initial policy direction of a 5 member task force composed of Selectmen Dretler & Roberts and a member of the Council on Aging, SPS School Board, & Park & Rec. Commission, with implementation under the direction of the Permanent Building Committee, and Town Manager, to design, construct, and furnish a new Sudbury Community Center including all necessary appurtenances to be constructed on town-owned land at 40 Fairbank Road, and to authorize the Treasurer with the approval of the Board of Selectmen to borrow said sum for a 20 or 25 year level payment term pursuant to M.G.L. c. 44 s.7 or 8 or any other enabling authority; provided, however, that this vote shall not take effect until the town votes to approve a Proposition 2½ Debt Exclusion in accordance with G.L. c.59, s. 21C,, or act on anything thereto.

(2/3 vote required since borrowed)

We, the undersigned being registered voters of the Town of Sudbury hereby petition that the foregoing article(s) be added to the warrant for the Jan 2, 2020 special town meeting:

	Signature (as Registered)	Printed Name	Address (# & street) where Registered
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Petitioners Report

Design and construction of public buildings in Massachusetts is expensive! That said for 7 years the need for either renovated or new facilities at Fairbanks has been well known, extensively studied and all studies have reached the same essential conclusion: namely renovation is almost as expensive as new construction as it requires extensive upgrading to meet new much more stringent building codes as well as the cost to temporarily relocate users to alternative appropriate space. For these reasons, LSRHS was constructed as a new building next to the old facility after extensive study of the renovation alternative.

At the October 2018 STM \$1.9 million for design funds for a 62,800 sf \$32.8 million new Sudbury Community Center (SCC) was considered. The proposal was based on work by the 2017-2018 SCC task force assisted by Pros Consulting. As the Selectmen reported in the warrant the existing “building has a number of issues including lack of useable space, leaking roof portions failing climate control and other issues”. While it failed to receive the required 2/3 Special Town Meeting votes, however it still received 4268 “yes” votes at the subsequent Nov 6. 2018 election reflecting wide community support.

Thereafter another task force began extensive work assisted by ICON Architecture to further reduce space needs and find other ways to reduce cost. The result is the proposed new Sudbury Community Center with a 42,575 sf new building attached to a 14,361 sf renovated aquatics center. A \$ 27.7 million investment is required. In comparison the 2018 plan cost 25.2% more. As construction costs rise 5% per year, delay in approval will raise costs for this building approximately \$1.4 million each year.

With historically low interest rates, borrowing for a \$27.7 million investment at current interest rates for

20 years will cost Sudbury \$1.7 million annually in principal and interest payments. This translates into \$0.3625 annually per \$1000 of assessed valuation for residential property. \$181 yearly for a \$500,000 home. Less if borrowed for 25 years. Sudbury's use of this facility will continue long after the bond has been fully repaid.

Signatures (continued)

We, the undersigned being registered voters of the Town of Sudbury hereby petition that the foregoing article(s) be added to the warrant for the Jan 2, 2020 special town meeting:

Signature (as Registered)

Printed Name

Address (# &
street where Registered)

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