

TOWN OF SUDBURY  
COUNCIL ON AGING  
MINUTES OF MEETING

May 11, 2021

2:00 PM

ALL COA MEETINGS ARE NOW RECORDED AND  
AVAILABLE ON SUDBURYTV.ORG

**COA meetings done over Town Zoom video  
Conference Account**

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

**Present:** Chairman: Jeff Levine

**Members Present:** Patricia Tabloski, Sandy Lasky, Bob May, Bob Lieberman, Peg Espinola, Carmine Gentile, Pat Lewis, and John Beeler

**Also Attending:** Ana Cristina Oliveira-Acting Director of Sr. Center

**Guests via Video:** Judy Battat; Lynn Puorro (Sudbury TV resource); and Kay Bell.

**Meeting called to order** by Chairman Jeff Levine at 2:05 PM

Attendance by all those members above confirmed by roll-call affirmation.

**Approval of Minutes** from Meeting of April 13, 2021 –The COA unanimously approved as by roll-call vote with amendments.

**Director's Report: (Acting Director Ana Cristina Oliveira).** There is a calendar for allowing all staff back together in senior center by July. Programs will be slowly added inside the center. Senior connection van now 5 days a week. Senior center is open only for appointments and specific programs. No drop-ins, please.

**Baypath Elder Services report (Pat Tabloski).** Baypath also helps elders and their money management thru special programs. Baypath is working on several aspects of monitoring individual vaccine status. More detail on Attachment A.

**Transportation (Sandy Lasky):** Several of the programs like UBER, Taxi, and vans are now operating. Formal budgeting and planning for the next fiscal year has begun.

**State Legislative Update-Carmine Gentile. No new report**

**Fairbanks project Update (Jeff Levine):** An architect (BH&A) has been chosen. Site work has begun. About 3 years or January 2024 are approximate occupancy dates.

**Reading Program (Sandy Lasky and Judy Battat)** Short overview given by Sandy and Judy. Issue is can our Elders help K-8 students who need tutoring in any

number of dimensions. Judy Battat was asked to open some planning discussions with the Superintendent's office and report back next month.

**Liaison with Board of Health—Pat Lewis.** This is Pat's initial report on what can COA do to help specifically the Town Nurse and Town Social Worker who were the focus of this month. Several ideas were discussed and Ana C. will follow up with Town Social Worker for added clarity.

**Nominees to COA** already approved by the COA will be reviewed and hopefully appointed by Select Board later in May.

**Other thoughts/ comments**

Jeff Levine recognized both John Beeler and Bob May for their long service—12 years each.

**Motion was made by John Beeler to adjourn.** Seconded by Peg Lewis. Unanimous approval by roll-call vote. Adjourned at 3:43pm.

**The next meeting** will be scheduled for June 08, 2021 at 2PM via Zoom. Viewable later on SudburyTV ([SudburyTV.org](http://SudburyTV.org)).

Respectfully submitted by  
Robert May  
COA Secretary

## Attachment A

### Baypath highlights

#### **BayPath Money Management Program**

The mission of the Money Management program is to promote and prolong the independent living of individuals, low-income individuals, and individuals with disabilities by providing assistance with routine bill paying activities. The program has been in place since 1991. Services are provided by a truly an amazing group of volunteers. The volunteers are not giving financial investment advice or anything of that nature. They assist the consumer in preparing checks, organizing bills, reviewing bank statement each month, establishing a budget, balancing the check register, and assisting with online bill payment if the person is doing that online.

The Money Management program has been operating in a very different way during the pandemic. Assessments have been primarily conducted over the phone. The program has just started to do face to face visits again if both the client and volunteer have been vaccinated and are willing to get back together. They still wear masks, meet outdoors if possible, and follow standard COVID protocols as required. The in person visit with the volunteer is very welcomed by many clients who want that familiar person back in their home. Consumer feedback for this program has been outstanding.

#### **COVID 19**

We have continued to reach out to consumers to find out who has been vaccinated. Many consumers are fully or partially vaccinated, and we continue outreach to those who have not responded or may be vaccine hesitant. The agency has resumed regular in home assessments for all consumer who have been fully vaccinated. For those who are not fully vaccinated, we continue our policy of evaluating the consumer's need for an in person assessment. If there are no risks or concerns, we conduct the assessment telephonically. There is an issue statewide with some consumers calling ASAPs and requesting that only a vaccinated aide come provide care. Whether a person has had the vaccine is private health information. Thus we are not able to ask providers about it. Also, all aides continue to follow infection control procedures and public health measures. We are trying to educate consumers that the vaccine protects the person who has had the vaccine. It is virtually 100% effective at preventing serious illness and death if the individual has been vaccinated. We are trying to help people understand that if they are concerned about their own health, they should get the vaccine themselves.

#### **State Homebound Program**

When the Johnson and Johnson vaccine was paused, the Homebound program was put on hold. This week the Homebound vaccination program will be resumed using the Moderna Vaccine. They have been scheduling people this week for their first dose. They want to get anyone who is eligible and on the list their 1<sup>st</sup> dose of Moderna by the end of May.

N.B. Subsequent to the Board meeting, BayPath was notified that the homebound vaccine program will begin using the J&J vaccine soon.