

TOWN OF SUDBURY
COUNCIL ON AGING
MINUTES OF MEETING
August 10, 2021
4:00 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/>
Hybrid Meeting In Person and Via Zoom

Present: Chairman: Jeff Levine (via zoom)

Members Present: In Person: Sandy Lasky, Bob Lieberman, Peg Espinola, Anna Newberg. Via Zoom: Pat Tabloski, Don Sherman and Carmine Gentile

Also Attending: Debra Galloway Director of Sr. Center

Guests via Video: John Beeler; Lynn Puorro (Sudbury TV resource); and Mark Thompson. (Town of Sudbury Technology Administrator)

Meeting called to order by Vice Chairperson Sandy Lasky at 4:01 PM

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

Approval of Minutes from Meeting of June 8, 2021 –The COA unanimously approved by roll-call vote with amendments.

Director's Report: (Debra Galloway) The Covid-19 Delta variant has delayed the full reopening of in-person programs. The Fairbanks Community Center is open on a limited basis but classes utilizing DVD programs remain virtual. Certain volunteer programs including Fix It, Friendly Visit, Phone Buddies, Grocery Assistance and Loan closet continue. A new Uber tech help program has started as well. The Dementia Friendly Sudbury Action Team is working to interact with families in need as well as to promote understanding and education for family members, neighbors and members of the community. The Senior Center officially opened on July 6th following guidance from the CDC. Guests are urged to wear masks when inside the building. The Shine program for Medicare consulting remains remote with a target date of October 15th for in person assistance.

BayPath Elder Services report (Pat Tabloski). Update on BayPath BOD meeting included discussion on wages and health insurance costs. Additionally, emphasis on the nutrition program to ensure the quality of home meals is maintained. Continued focus to address the requirements and needs of the older community members to be able to age in place.

Transportation (Sandy Lasky): Charter has been extended for an additional year by the Sudbury Select Board. Continued focus on the rollout of the Uber initiative

with the average cost of a ride at \$11. A presentation will be made to the Select Board with data and frequency of rides along the Route 20 corridor for medical appointments and food shopping for seniors, people with disabilities and those in financial need. Other funding options, including possible Covid 19 relief, will be explored.

State Legislative Update (Carmin Gentile): Last month legislative approval for \$25 million for communities to use for transportation with additional \$25 million for link up with public transportation outside of their respective communities.

Senior Center Publicity (Sandy Lasky): Discussion pursued about reaching out to the under 60 year old residents and to develop an education program to inform these residents of the activities of the Senior Center.

Fairbanks project Update (Jeff Levine): Report on continued Permanent Building Committee meeting to review cost estimates with input from the estimators. Internal and external finishing as well as soft costs are under review. Next meeting of August 12th looking to firm up final schematic design. Question was raised as to whether there are any federal funds available to the State that might be allocated for this project.

Motion was made by Carmin Gentile to adjourn. Second by Anna Newberg. Unanimous approval by roll-call vote. Adjourned at 5:24pm.

The next meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2021 at 4PM using the Hybrid meeting approach of In Person at the Fairbanks Community Center and via zoom. Viewable later on Sudbury TV (SudburyTV.org).

Respectfully submitted by
Robert Lieberman
COA Secretary

