

TOWN OF SUDBURY  
COUNCIL ON AGING  
MINUTES OF MEETING  
September 12, 2022  
3:30 PM

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

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

WEBSITE: <http://sudbury.ma.us/departments/CouncilOnAging/>  
Meeting Conducted Via Zoom

**Present:** Chairman: Jeff Levine

**Members Present:** Anna Newberg, Bob Lieberman, Pat Lewis, Marilyn Tromer, Colin Warwick and Carmine Gentile (left at 4.00)

**Members Absent: Don Sherman**

**Also Attending:** Debra Galloway Director of Sr. Center, Paul Marotta (Pending COA BOD member)

**Guests via Video:** Lynn Puorro (Sudbury TV resource), Jennifer Roberts (Select Board Member) Pat Brown

**Meeting called to order** by Chairman Jeff Levine at 3:33 PM

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

**Approval of Minutes** from COA Meeting of August 12, 2022 –The COA unanimously approved the minutes by roll-call vote as submitted.

**Director's Report: (Debra Galloway):** Grandparent grab and go with gift bag event was held with 40 participants. Discussion concerning the ongoing construction of the new community center followed with mention that Sandra Duran, Town Combined Facilities Manager is scheduled to provide a construction update on September 19 which is open to town residents. Upcoming programs include a "Falls Prevention" talk from Connections Physical Therapy, a balance assessment discussion sponsored by Longfellow Holistic Health, an illusionist at an evening program on September 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00PM as well as a fall pumpkin carving event coordinated with Park and Recreation. The Town of Sudbury has released updated census information noting that the population has decreased partially as a result of approximately 900 residents being removed from the data as a result of inactive voting activity. Debra will meet with Jim Nee the new administrator of the Metro West Regional Transit Authority (MWRTA) on Sep. 15 to discuss the needs of the community as it relates to transportation. Classes in the gym have re-opened and the new entrance for Park and Recreation is now functional but some additional signage is needed. The flashing traffic light on Fairbanks Road between the community center and Haskell Field is pending installation.

**Fairbanks Project Update (Jeff Levine):** The discussion focused on the audio visual shortfall vs budget with regard to equipment in the Senior Center portion of the building. A question remains as to identifying the amount of said shortfall and the need for assisted listening devices, both of which are to be discussed with the Town Facilities Manager. We are looking for fixed screens to be installed utilizing funds approved at the most recent Town Meeting or grant opportunities. Discussion then turned to the patio and pergola building plan funded by the Friends of the Sudbury Senior Citizens and a request for a copy of the plan rendering. Anticipated soft opening for the new community center is scheduled for the early fall of 2023.

**Transportation Committee Report (Bob Lieberman):** The Transportation Committee will be presenting its five year plan to the Select Board on Tuesday, September 13<sup>th</sup>. A significant amount of research went into the preparation of a five-year plan to include the who, what, where, when and how the program will evolve citing proof of concept initiatives achieved. The success of the program will include a regional approach to transportation and partnering with neighboring communities. The Town of Sudbury has entered into an agreement with Annex Transit to complement its existing wheel chair vehicle (WAV) programs via the Go Sudbury Taxi initiative which is earmarked for medical appointments only. The Committee will recommend level funding earmarked for FY 24 in the amount of \$100,000 consistent with the previous year consistent with the “high” range option for program continuity. It should also be noted that the committee is expecting to hear back from the Metropolitan Planning Organization concerning its request for technical assistance in the form of a route planner. The recent revisions to the program were discussed including effective August 1, 2022 an increase in co-pays, increase in age availability from 50 to 60 and over as well as 18 years and older if an individual has a disability or financial need . The Go Sudbury Uber program will now be limited to a 25 mile area and a limit of 20 one way rides per month. The re-enrollment of participants is progressing and is near the level of prior year participation

**Select Board Goals (Jeff Levine):** Initial discussion on topics the Council would want the Select Board to consider including 1) Transportation needs, requirements and funding, 2) Sewataro property utilization and ADA compliance, 3)Retaining seniors in the community, 4) Senior Means Tax Exempt Program and 5) Ongoing traffic issues/ concerns. It was agreed that the discussion would need to carry over to the next board meeting.

**Development of Action Plan based upon Focus Group Findings (Jeff Levine):**

Discussion continued with regard to the three areas of concentration that were identified including (1) Community Platforms for Communication, (2) Senior Center Name and (3) Programs and Partnerships.

Discussion commenced as we work to identify available print material, electronic platforms and physical locations in town. The Sudbury library, One Sudbury, the Patch, Sudbury Weekly and the Senior Center Facebook page under the Town website were mentioned. Marilyn will collect the data and distribute to committee members for further review.

Discussion turned to the Senior Center name and it was decided to defer the conversation until the next meeting. The discussion continued to programs and partnerships and recent contact made with Framingham State University. Bob will follow up and continue to explore potential opportunities including Fine Arts department students interested in recital work. New England Conservatory of Music or similar institutions were identified as possible resources along with potential volunteers for computer /smartphone technical support

**Other thoughts/comments:** Jeff reminded the committee members about Open Meeting Law /Ethics and /LGBT training classes. Members were encouraged to complete the online classes and submit their course completion certificates for ethics and LGBTQ to Debra for our records. The Sudbury Doing Good event is scheduled for November 5<sup>th</sup> at the Goodnow Library and the Senior Center will have a table setup with information about programs and available resources.

**Motion was made by Marilyn Tromer to adjourn.** Second by Pat Lewis . Unanimously approved by roll-call vote. Adjourned at 4:58PM.

**The next regular meeting** is scheduled for 3:30PM on October 17, 2022 at the Senior Center with all board members consent. Otherwise the meeting will be hybrid via zoom. Viewable later on Sudbury TV (SudburyTV.org).

Respectfully submitted by  
Robert Lieberman  
COA Secretary