

TOWN OF SUDBURY
COUNCIL ON AGING
MINUTES OF MEETING
November 14, 2022
3:30 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/
Meeting Conducted Via Zoom](http://sudbury.ma.us/departments/CouncilOnAging/Meeting%20Conducted%20Via%20Zoom)

Present: Chairman: Jeff Levine

Members Present: Anna Newberg, Bob Lieberman, Marilyn Tromer, Colin Warwick, Carmine Gentile, Don Sherman and Paul Marotta

Members Absent: None

Also Attending: Debra Galloway Director of Sr. Center, Sandra Duran Combined (Sudbury Schools and Town) Facilities Director

Guests via Video: Lynn Puorro (Sudbury TV resource), Kay Bell (Chairperson of Commission on Disabilities)

Meeting called to order by Chairman Jeff Levine at 3:32 PM

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

Approval of Minutes from COA Meeting of October 17, 2022 –The COA unanimously approved by roll-call vote the minutes as submitted with amendments

Fairbanks Community Center Construction Update (Sandra Duran) : A presentation was viewed with respect to the Community Center including construction progress, a review of the water line issue discovered and resolution, schedule updates and overall project updates. Construction highlights noted were the foundation walls were poured and perimeter foundation (90% complete) as well as rebar was installed, A PVC pipe under pressure was found which was part of a fire suppression system that caused partial flooding on the site and remediation is under way. In addition, several issues were found including 1) loaming soil,2) debris from previous projects,3) water issues and 4) electricity switch. These issues have pushed the anticipated preliminary opening of the new facility to the January/February 2024 timeline from late fall of 2023.

A detailed conversation about furniture ensued including selection and pricing. Sample pieces that were viewed at the distributor will be sent to the Senior Center for people to try and comment on. A question was raised concerning budgets and deferral to the Permanent Building Committee was recommended for specific information and data. The presentation

continued with a focus on kitchen equipment and pricing to be reviewed. This has been an ongoing issue and concern with alternative funding sources, including The Cummings Foundation, The Friends of Sudbury Senior Citizens, as resources that may not meet the budgetary need.

The discussion then turned to Assisted Listening Device System (ALS) equipment and whether wiring conduit, speakers and microphones were in fact part of the construction design. Sandra mentioned that she has an upcoming meeting scheduled for November 17th with Sudbury IT department to discuss "IT drops" and devices. A comment was made that this project has not been a joint effort project with timely resident input. Guest Kay Bell was recognized, and she asked whether the IT staff knew about end use options and noted that 20% of all disabilities are related to hearing loss.

Director's Report: (Debra Galloway): The installation of the flashing traffic light on Fairbanks Road between the community center and Haskell Field is scheduled for November 30th. The Park and Recreation sponsored intergenerational pumpkin fest was held in the gym and included carving and decorations. The "Doing Good" fair was held on Saturday, November 5th at the Goodnow Library where the Senior Center shared a table with the Transportation committee and was set up with literature and handouts for the public. A number of "file for life" cards were handed out which, when completed should be attached to the front of a resident's refrigerator with important emergency information. It was noted that we did not have any literature from the Friends of Sudbury Senior Citizens noting what they do and promotional information. Perhaps this should be considered for future events. The Dementia Friendly Sudbury action team reinforced their pledge to continue their efforts and maintain an action plan. Town wide voting took place at the community center throughout the day with significant foot traffic.

Transportation Committee Report (Debra Galloway/Bob Lieberman): Continued efforts to develop a regional plan working with several nearby towns and the related Regional Transit Authorities as many towns are furthest away from their regional areas. A question was raised as to whether the Go Sudbury Uber program should be expanded and continued efforts to seek technical assistance from the State. The Senior Center gets the applications for Uber rides and Debra noted that of 121 taxi riders, 89% were over age 60 and of 167 Uber riders, 81% were over 60 years of age. It was reported that the survey results sent out did note concerns with both the taxi and Uber programs that will need to be addressed. Bob mentioned that the "good news" report from the committee included the Mass Development Grant award in the amount of \$222,336 which includes the towns of Acton, Bolton, Stow and Sudbury. Funding will be available 30 days after the agreement has been signed by all parties involved. It should be noted that these funds are only available for taxi ride medical appointments. In addition, it was noted that Transportation is among the top five goals to be addressed by the Select Board.

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.

Motion was made by Carmine Gentile to adjourn. Second by Don Sherman. Unanimously approved by roll-call vote. Adjourned at 5:12 PM.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 3:30PM on December 12, 2022, at the Senior Center with the agreement of all board members. Otherwise, the meeting will be hybrid via zoom. Viewable later on Sudbury TV (SudburyTV.org).

Respectfully submitted by

Robert Lieberman
COA Secretary