

TO BE REVIEWED at COA Meeting
TOWN OF SUDBURY
COUNCIL ON AGING
MINUTES OF MEETING
September 11, 2023
3:30 PM

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

**COA meetings done over Town Zoom video.
Conference Account and In-Person at the Senior Center**
WEBSITE: <http://sudbury.ma.us/departments/CouncilOnAging/>
Meeting Conducted in person and Via Zoom

Present: Chairperson: Marilyn Tromer
Members Present: Anna Newberg, Bob Lieberman, Paul Marotta, Carmine Gentile
Members via Zoom: Don Sherman and Pat Tabloski
Members Absent: Jeff Levine
Also Attending: Debra Galloway Director of Sr. Center
Guests via Video: Lynn Puorro (Sudbury TV resource)
Guests in person: Kay Bell (Sudbury resident)
Meeting called to order by Chairperson Marilyn Tromer at 3:55 PM
Attendance by all those members above confirmed by roll-call affirmation.

Approval of Minutes from COA Meetings of July 10, 2023, –The COA agreed to defer the approval of the minutes until the next scheduled COA meeting of October 16, 2023, which motion was made by Anna Newberg, seconded by Bob Lieberman and unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Director's Report: (Debra Galloway): Debra updated the COA on the progress of construction on the new community center and again confirmed that the move out date for the Senior Center is November 10th with an anticipated move in date into the new facility on Monday, November 20th. The transition over ten days will allow for an orderly movement of furniture, equipment and files into the appropriate offices and meeting rooms. Debra continued her update mentioning new instructors and classes as well as the open front desk position and a grant enhancing literacy program to include technical training on emails, iphone capabilities etc. A new clinician position was filled in Town who will work with the Sudbury police department to assist on various calls where a social worker intervention is helpful. It was also mentioned that the popular weekly current events program is now a hybrid meeting.

A discussion followed concerning a “soft” opening in January followed by the grand opening in May 2024 and the types of events to be considered (See Community Center Opening below)

Transportation Committee Report (Bob Lieberman/Debra Galloway): Bob Lieberman updated the COA of the three recent Transportation Committee meetings that are held every two weeks. Topics covered include 1) Continue to utilize Annex Transit as a secondary source for taxi service, 2) Approximately \$7,000 available from 2022 funding and ultimate disposition, 3) Introduction of Dani Marini-King, the new Town Sustainability Coordinator, and her focus on a strategy toolkit to prepare for potential changes in the environment, 4) Continued discussions on ongoing grant opportunities, 5) MA State earmark of \$125,000 to support the Go Sudbury Transportation program 6) Continued efforts to work with the Metro West Regional Transit Authority to explore grant opportunities, 7) A presentation from VIA Transit, a micro transit resource to explore this as an alternative resource. A more in depth proposal and pricing is needed. and 8) Bessie Struck, a member of the Sudbury Commission on Disability has been appointed as a liaison to the Transportation committee.

Membership Committee: (Bob Lieberman): Applications have been received to fill the one open board position on the COA. The committee will review those applications, conduct interviews and make a proposal to the full board to fill the vacancy.

Community Center Opening (Paul Marotta): A discussion continued with regard to the soft opening and included several members of the Friends of Sudbury Seniors. (“the Friends”) The soft opening event is scheduled for January 9th 2024 between the hours of 9:00 AM and 1:00PM with “giveaways”, a tour of the new Community Center and discussions of the activities to be offered. The Friends have agreed to donate a grand piano to the new facility and a performance is scheduled during this event.

Liaison to Other Town Committees: Marilyn led a discussion and asked each committee member for an update on their committee interaction. Bob previously reported on transportation, Marilyn reported that there were three new members appointed to the Commission on Disability, Paul had some initial discussions with Park and Recreation concerning shared space, and Carmine updated the committee on Sudbury Housing Authority initiatives.

Other thought/Comments (Marilyn Tromer): Debra mentioned that there is a Fall Fest event to be held on September 23rd at Haskell field. The senior center will have two tables with literature and giveaways. Committee members are encouraged to attend the event. In addition, there is a Town Fall Forum scheduled for October 12th at 7:00PM looking for ways for residents to get involved and a fall Town Meeting scheduled for October 23rd. Pat Tabloski has agreed to fill the open position of COA Secretary.

Motion was made by Paul Marotta to adjourn. Second by Carmine Gentile Unanimously approved by roll-call vote. Adjourned at 4:59 PM.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 3:30PM on October 16, 2023, 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