

TO BE REVIEWED at COA Meeting in February, 2024
TOWN OF SUDBURY
COUNCIL ON AGING
MINUTES OF MEETING
January 17, 2024
3:30 PM

Present: Chair: Marilyn Tromer

Members Present: Anna Newberg, Paul Marotta, Don Sherman, Patricia Tabloski, Carmine Gentile, Jeff Levine, Bob Lieberman.

Excused: Brenda Erickson.

Also Attending: Debra Galloway Director of Sr. Center

Guests via Video: Kay Bell

Meeting called to order by Chair Marilyn Tromer at 3:33 PM

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

Call to Order

Minutes from December 11, 2023 approved with correction.

Director's Report

Ana Christina has left the Senior Center. The job has been posted and a new search process will be undertaken shortly.

A special event occurred yesterday with Harvey Leonard speaking. It was a successful presentation. Classes have been held as scheduled in the new community center and by hybrid. Art classes and other new offerings will begin in February.

Survey will begin shortly for planning of new classes and program offerings.

Staffing shortage on the Front Desk is still an issue. New applicants have continued to express interest. We continue to work to fill the afternoon slot vacancy.

We still need a substitute van driver, search continues.

Transportation Committee Report – Bob Lieberman

Two new members have been added to the transportation committee. Adam Burney, Sudbury's new Planning Director, & Cheryl Wallace, resident, were approved by the Select Board on 1/5/24. Balance of the meeting was funding and grant opportunities. Sudbury will seek funding from the Boston Hospital Shuttle with three shuttles/day. Community transit grant to run a shuttle along the Rt 20 corridor ending at the Target in Marlboro will also be pursued. Transportation Annual report to the town was also discussed.

Special Event Subcommittee Report (Marotta)

Due to the later dates for the move to the new Community Center, Feb 6 from 9:30 am to 1:30 PM (soft opening) new date for Community Center opening.

Backup date is Feb 13th for poor weather. Flowers, greeters, food, and music arrangements finalized.

Liaison to other Town Committees (Tromer)

Jeff: Friends of Sudbury Seniors. Piano purchased and arrangements continue. Refurbishment is complete and covers have been purchased. Waiting for Facilities to approve transfer to Senior Center. Friends have requested the Select Board approve this donation to the town.

Marilyn: Commission on Disability has some turnover and the current COA liaison is on hold. A new COD liaison is being identified to the COA.

Don: Goodnow Library – The goal is senior friendly activities. Nothing new to report.

Paul: Park & Rec - The goal is similar to Don's with the library, namely senior friendly activity.

Pat: Board of Health – No updates.

Carmine: Sudbury Housing Authority and Sudbury Housing Trust (of which he is chair). Housing Authority has 1 ½ maintenance workers. They have requested the CPC for additional funding (\$450,000). Funding for units have been requested for 3 units on Nobscot Road. Trust has helped over 100 families with payment of 6 month's rent and mortgage assistance program has been assisting families with funding.

Jeff previously reported: Housing survey has closed. Largest cohort of respondents were seniors. Results pending.

Town Meeting Articles (Galloway). Revolving accounts requests have been prepared and will be submitted to the town: Program Revolving Account and MWRTA Transportation account. Program Revolving account accepts student fees and pays instructors. The MWRTA account accepts MWRTA funds and pays van drivers' salaries and operating expenses. COA signatures required. Document will be circulated today. Jeff Levine moved to accept articles, second by Tromer. Motion carried.

Needs assessment Survey – tabled.

Sudbury Property Tax Relief Discussion – Proposal to increase hours and salary to \$2,000 and over 130 hours for Tax Work-off Program. The Board of Assessors will take this up at their next meeting, then it goes to the Select Board. MA State Tax relief called Circuit breaker. Those eligible can apply for Sudbury's Senior Means Tested Tax Exemption.

Debra will send information regarding these programs out in the COA newsletter and a printed handout to be distributed at the Senior Center. Carmine will send some brochure information regarding the Circuit Breaker program for distribution at the Senior Center.

Home Delivered Meals Location Discussion – Debra. Some drivers concerned about the distribution of meals from the new community center due to space limitations in the kitchen. Presently the American Legion is being used for distribution. Springwell coordinates the distribution of meals in Sudbury and Wayland. Marilyn and Anna will visit the American Legion center and survey the facilities and distribution center during meal distribution hours.

Meeting adjourned at 4:35 PM.

Next meeting February 12 , 2024 at 3:30pm.

Respectfully submitted by Patricia Tabloski, COA Secretary