

TOWN OF SUDBURY  
COUNCIL ON AGING  
MINUTES OF MEETING

March 10, 2025

3:30 PM

ALL COA MEETINGS ARE 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 Via Zoom

**Present:** Chairperson: Marilyn Tromer

**Members Present:** Anna Newberg, Bob Lieberman, Paul Marotta, Pat Tabloski, Carmine Gentile and Don Sherman

**Members via Zoom:** None

**Members Absent:** None

**Also Attending:** Debra Galloway Director of Sr. Center, Jill Dube, Assistant Director/Outreach of Sr. Center and Palig Garabedian, Program and Publicity Coordinator of Sr. Center

**Guests via Video:** Lynn Puorro (Sudbury TV resource), Select Board member Janie Dretler

**Guests in person:** Kay Bell (Sudbury resident) Lisa Kouchakdjian (Sudbury Select Board) and Ralph Tyler (Sudbury resident)

**Meeting called to order** by Chairperson Marilyn Tromer at 3:34 PM

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

**Approval of Minutes** The COA unanimously approved by roll call vote - the minutes as submitted with amendments from the COA Meeting of February 10,2025.

**Staff Introductions (Debra Galloway):** Debra introduced Palig Garabedian the new Program and Publicity Coordinator to the members of the COA. Palig gave a summary of her background and what she was working on including her responsibilities for the Facebook page, newsletters, press releases and the constant contact web page.

**Director's Report: (Debra Galloway):** Debra updated some statistics on new participants YTD for fiscal year of 245 new participants since July as compared to 480 for the entire prior fiscal year. Both Debra and Palig attended the most recent Friends of Sudbury Seniors meeting where potential funding activities were discussed. The Council on Aging annual report was reviewed which incorporated COA members edits and comments. A motion was made by Carmine Gentile to approve the Annual Report which was second by Paul Marotta. Unanimously approved by roll-call vote.

**Membership Committee (Bob Lieberman):** Bob updated the COA on the interview the Membership Committee had with Jane Keilty, a long-standing resident of Sudbury. Her

background, including a career in nursing and qualifications were discussed. We also noted the need to develop new programs and member interaction as liaisons to other Town committees. After discussion a motion was made by Carmine Gentile and second by Bob Lieberman to recommend Ms. Kielty be considered by the Sudbury Select Board to be appointed to the Sudbury COA. Unanimously approved by roll-call vote.

Chairperson Marilyn Tromer stated that the COA was a nine-member board of which there were currently seven members. In addition, two members would be stepping down effective June 1, 2025, and liaison positions would need to be filled at that time.

**Transportation Committee Report (Bob Lieberman):** Bob Lieberman updated the COA of the recent Transportation Committee meeting that was held on March 7, 2025. Topics included 1) Selectboard Chairperson Mitch Cohen of Northborough gave the committee and update on programs, issues and concerns facing Northborough residents, 2) results of a Flash Vote survey done in Sudbury noting need for more and broader communications about transportation, additional transportation options, ongoing concerns about walkways/biking and driver safety 3) continued dialogue concerning the use of vouchers and 4) need for advocacy for transportation.

A lengthy discussion ensued concerning the viability of the transportation programs continuing, transportation funding resources, town staff assistance and the viability of the transportation programs without additional funding resources other than grants.

**Liaison Update: (Marilyn Tromer):** Friends of Sudbury Seniors ("Friends") helping to coordinate concerts including Chamber Players to be followed up on potential timing. Paul Marotta led a discussion of potential installation of a Bocce court and horseshoe field. Paul and Debra Galloway met with Town facilities manager to discuss opportunities and costs.

Additional discussions included 1) The use of the Senior Center after hours and weekends, 2) Housing Trust activity with small grants to repair damaged homes, and 3) Housing Authority plans to build some new duplex's with available state funding. A question was raised as to timing of the re-introduction of the Medical Equipment loan closet program.

**Needs Based Tax Relief Program:** A discussion led by Ralph Tyler reviewed the parameters of eligibility and a Town Article (#55) on the next town Meeting agenda to vote to continue the program for an additional three years. It was recommended that a vote to support the program be added to the next COA meeting agenda.

**Motion was made by Don Sherman to adjourn.** Second by Paul Marotta. Unanimously approved by roll-call vote. Adjourned at 5: 35PM.

**The next regular meeting** is scheduled for 3:30PM on may 12, 2025, at the Senior Center with the agreement of all board members. The meeting will be hybrid via zoom. Viewable later on Sudbury TV ([SudburyTV.org](http://SudburyTV.org)).