

TO BE REVIEWED AT COA MEETING

TOWN OF SUDBURY

COUNCIL ON AGING

MINUTES OF MEETING

October 6, 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 Senior Center

WEBSITE: <http://sudbury.ma.us/departments/CouncilOnAging/>

Meeting conducted Via Zoom

Present: Chairperson Paul Marotta

Members Present: Joel Bauman, Mary McLaughlin, Anna Newberg, Don Sherman, Pat Tabloski, Carmine Gentile

Members via Zoom: None:

Members absent: Jane Keilty, Mary Brauer

Also Attending: Nickole Boardman, Director

Guests via Video: Lisa Kouchakdjian, Lynn Puorro

Guests in person: None

Meeting called to order by Chairperson Paul Marotta at 3:33 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 September 8, 2025.

General Discussion: Ongoing discussion of adding associate members (non voting) and alternate members to the COA board with a consensus to pursue associate members who can attend and participate in discussion but not vote.

Paul has invited the Goodnow Library Director, Amy Stimac, to the next meeting for a 15 minute presentation.

A representative from the food pantry and a social worker will be presenting in December or January.

Membership Committee: The committee includes Joel Bauman, Don Sherman and Carmine Gentile. They agreed to meet at a later date to develop procedures for additional non voting members to the COA board.

Directors Report: The kitchen renovation project is progressing and the permitting process is ongoing. October events are nearly full with waitlists. A handout detailing senior transportation services from January 2025 to September noting 2500 rides by two Sudbury van drivers illustrates the activity increase. A significant increase of daily visitors to the Senior Center also increased from 64 to 93 on average per day.

Transportation Committee Report: (Mary Brauer) The Uber voucher system started on September 1. All issues have been handled to date with a few bumps getting the new program running. Clarification from representatives of Uber regarding drop off locations have been reviewed. Drop off locations are based solely on longitude and latitude to protect user's privacy versus addresses. Riders whose visual or mobile abilities are impacted reported difficulties with this leeway.

The cities of Medford and Brookline asked about our pilot program and a member will contact them. For the current Go Sudbury program 23 people have signed on for the 30 vouchers available at \$30 each.

Committee members will meet with a representative of the MWRTA for the MassDot grants to discuss the possibility of expanding the routes.

The Transportation Fair will be on October 16th at the Sudbury Senior Center

Community Liaison Committees:

Friends of the Sudbury Senior Center: (Paul Marotta) A billiards open house is planned for October 20. Planning continues for their fundraising events for 2026.

DEI Committee (Anna Newburg) on 9/30 a combined meeting with the Sudbury Select Board was held to present and discuss the DEI Commission Report and engage in a collaborative dialogue regarding the progress, challenges and future direction. Accomplishments and challenges were discussed.

Strategic Planning (Pat Tabloski) Presented a two page handout for Strategic Plan FY 2026 with a 5 point plan. Each point was discussed at length and suggestions made. The board voted to approve the plan and expand the discussion going forward. A new needs assessment for senior programs, with concerns raised about the best methods to gather data from the older population ensued. QR codes and online surveys were discussed.

Sudbury Select Board (Lisa Kouchakdjian) Provided an update on activities including budget preparation, policy development and plans for a stabilization fund for vocational education. Currently there is work on a handbook for town boards and committees as well as quarterly meetings.

Housing Authority and Trust: (Carmine Gentile) An update on housing initiatives including the four acre parcel near the police and fire station which is currently being surveyed. Also an opportunity for future housing development at the police crime lab on Horse Pond Road. There will be a housing forum 10/23 at Goodnow Library with the Housing trust and housing authority.

Motion was made by Carmine Gentile to adjourn. Second by Joel Bauman. Unanimously approved by roll-call vote. Adjourned at 5:20PM.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for 3:30PM on November 10, 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).