

**Northampton Council on Aging
Meeting Minutes DRAFT
7/11/19**

At the Northampton Senior Center, 67 Conz Street, Northampton

Present: Kathie Bredin, Gerriann Butler, Ben Capistrant, Michael Ford, Casey Fowler, Dennis Helmus, Jeanne Henry Hoose, Cynthia Langley, Donna Park, Kathy Pekala Service, Marie Westburg.

Excused: Robert Dionne, Mary Lastowski

Absent: Deborah Epstein

Call to Order

- Gerriann Butler called the meeting to order at 3:30 PM.

Public Session – No one was present.

Review and approval of minutes from the previous meeting

- A motion was made by Kathy Service and seconded by Cindy Langley to approve the 6/13/19 minutes as written. The minutes were unanimously approved.

Announcements: Marie introduced Nancy Yesu, the new Program Coordinator. She introduced herself to the Council.

Old Business

1. No old business.

New Business

1. No new business.

Director's Report: 1. Marie hired a new Assistant Director who will start August 5. 2. We have a new farmer's market and cooking club using foods from Crimson & Clover Farm, which is the same supplier for the market. 3. Elder Vision funded the purchase of the outdoor furniture and it should be here soon. 4. There will be a Community Listening Session on July 30th from 6 to 7:30pm for community input on the Age & Dementia Friendly Initiative. 5. The Senior Center wants to be welcoming to everyone. To that end, Marie is having an Inclusivity/Diversity committee to inform what different groups of people want/need in order to participate in programming here. There is a Lesbian Discussion Group starting soon. 6. Marie spoke to one architectural firm for the building upgrades including potential redesign of the lobby. 7. There are occasional problems with ventilation – heating and air conditioning. These issues are addressed by the city but we cannot always meet requests to adjust the air as everyone has personal preference around temperatures. 8. AARP is sponsoring a shred event this Saturday the 13th from 11am to 1pm at Smith Vocational.

Other Business

1. There were name tags handed out for everyone if they would like them. They can be put at the front desk to hold here until your next visit.

2. Dennis Helmus said he spoke with the Ethics Commission and the Attorney and he can stay on both Elder Vision and the COA. He has to fill out a disclosure form and also abstain from voting on certain issues.

Adjournment:

Casey Fowler made a motion to adjourn the meeting and Kathy Service seconded it at 4:04 PM. The motion was unanimously approved.

- **Next NCOA Council Meeting:** Thursday, August 8th, 2019, at 3:30 at the Northampton Senior Center.
Respectfully submitted by _____ Linda R. DeMercurio