

Northampton Council on Aging Meeting
Thursday, January 13, 2022, 3:30 pm, Due to the Covid-19 emergency, this
meeting was conducted via Zoom Video Conferencing

COA Minutes

Call to Order: Cynthia Langley called the meeting to order @ 3:31 pm

Present: Cynthia Langley, Marie Westburg, Janet Yurko, Laura Scott, Michael Ford, Carolyn Sandel, Anne “Val” Romano, Bob Dionne, Gerriann Butler, Aurea Domenech & Jeanne Henry Hoose

Excused: Ben Capistrant

Public Session: None

Review and Approval of Minutes:

- A motion was made to accept the December minutes by Gerriann Butler and 2nd by Robert Dionne. The minutes were approved by the Council.

Announcements:

- An announcement was made that Janet Yurko’s last day would be January 14th. The board thanked Janet for her time at the Center, her energy & enthusiasm, and wished her luck in her next endeavor.

Director’s Report:

- **The vaccine mandate will become effective upon the reopening of the Center which hopefully will be mid February. Volunteers will be checking cards at the door**
- **The flooring may be able to be done while the Center is closed if there are no more Covid-related delays on the part of the installation company. We are currently exploring what**

types of plants & trees should be used in the lobby. The furniture sales rep has also delivered one sample chair

- Although the Service Incentive Grant Funding was denied; we are continuing to work on care package ideas
- The Virtual Senior Center Project has been slowed by the recent surge. We have had some feedback from our survey but are hoping for more responses
- The hybrid cart equipment has been delayed so no live streaming yet
- Age & Dementia Friendly Initiative report will be reviewed by the steering committee on Jan 27th. The committee will form official working groups to educate the city departments and businesses. This will include best practices review and self assessment for departments
- The EOEEA annual report was given an extension for the last fiscal year
- The Coffee Shop was not able to reopen as expected in January. Staff assistant Megan has been working on user friendly manuals for the new POS equipment

Assistant Director's Report:

- Volunteer recruitment has been great and I will miss them! We are using tax work off individuals to check vaccine status on returning members
- The tech program has run very smoothly with Stacia from Community Action. Unfortunately, Stacia will be leaving and we are working with them to find someone new to replace her. Those who have participated found this a great service

Old Business:

- Jeanne Henry Hoose is sending letters to all selected artists with the adjustments made to the schedule. Artists for Jan & Feb were moved to Mar & Apr

New Business:

- Could the weekly eBlast contain more notices encouraging participation
- Welcome to the new mayor who has been a long time supporter of city events

Next Meeting: February 10th, 2022, 3:30 pm, Northampton Senior Center (via Zoom)

Adjournment : Motion to adjourn was made by Val Romana, 2nd Michael Ford

Meeting adjourned @ 4:18 pm