

Northampton Council on Aging Meeting
Thursday, February 10th, 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 @ 3:33 pm

Present: Cynthia Langley, Marie Westburg, Laura Scott, Michael Ford, Carolyn Sandel, Bob Dionne, Gerriann Butler & Jeanne Henry Hoose

Excused: Ben Capistrant, Anne “Val” Romano, & Aurea Domenech (resigned)

Public Session: None

Review and Approval of Minutes:

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

Announcements: None

Director’s Report:

- **The Senior Center will reopen on February 28th. Staff will be back in the building beginning February 14th. Activities will still be limited with masks (surgical or N95) and social distancing. We will have surgical masks available for those who need one for entry into the Center. Meals will continue to be curbside only until the mask mandate is rescinded**
- **The vaccine mandate will become effective upon the reopening of the Center. A Public Health ambassador & volunteers will be checking cards at the door. Patrons will need to be fully vaccinated & boosted (if eligible). The Public Health ambassador will be available for**

questions

- **The flooring has been completed and looks wonderful. The lobby area is much brighter. Furniture samples have been brought to the Center but no formal decision has been made on them**
- **The hybrid cart has been delivered and the staff and some instructors have had training on this very versatile piece of equipment**
- **Age & Dementia Friendly Initiative committee will form official working groups to work on goals for the city including educating city departments and businesses. Thanks were given to Becky at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission for her hard work on the report. COA members asked for & will receive a copy after the next draft has been finalized**
- **The EOEA annual report has been submitted for the last fiscal year**
- **Curbside meals continue to be very popular**
- **AARP began tax preparations in our building in February**
- **The assistant director position will remain open for now**

New Business:

- **Could the weekly eBlast include an invite to the public to attend COA meetings? It was noted that public attendance has been down throughout the pandemic**
- **The POW flag needs to be replaced; Marie will contact Steve Connor to ask for a replacement**
- **Kate Childs', artist of the month for March, reception will occur during Arts Night Out.**

Next Meeting: April 14th, 2022, 3:30 pm, Northampton Senior Center (via Zoom)

Adjournment : Motion to adjourn was made by Michael Ford & 2nd by Jeanne Henry Hoose

Meeting adjourned @ 4:22 pm