

DATE: January 18, 2022  
TO: Commission on Elder Affairs & Interested Parties  
FROM: Robin Bahr Casey, Chair  
SUBJECT: Meeting Notice and Agenda for January 24, 2022, 4 pm, webex  
The next meeting of the **Commission on Elder Affairs** will be held on **Monday, January 24, 2022 at 4 pm via webex**. Members who cannot attend, please contact Amy Vogel Waters at 508-799-1232 x48013 or [WatersA@worcesterma.gov](mailto:WatersA@worcesterma.gov).

<https://cow.webex.com/cow/j.php?MTID=m7e6d4ec234834a4777dec771ec9b9f40>

Meeting number: 2315 115 3962

Password: MyPGceZn733

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Access code: 231 511 53962

### **BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA**

- I. Commission on Elder Affairs Chair
  - a. Call to Order/Roll Call
  - b. Approval of Commission Minutes of Nov. 22, 2021 meeting
  - c. Approval of Senior Center Committee Report- Jan. 11, 22 meeting
  
- II. Elder Affairs Staff Reports
  - a. Director Report - Strategic Plan Goal and Objectives
  
  - b. Senior Center Operations Director Report
    1. Developing and Offered Programs
    2. Facility and Grounds
  
  - c. Manager of Senior Services & Education Report
    1. Outreach, Information, Referral and Advocacy
    2. Multi-cultural Programs & more
  
- III. Commission on Elder Affairs Chair

-comments &/or questions from Commission members

-comments from others-up to 2 minutes each

-confirm next meeting- **February 28, 2022** at 4 pm

-Adjourn

The City of Worcester/ Division of Elder Affairs does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to access to, or operation of its programs, services or activities. The City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices. Auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities will be provided upon advance request. Please contact Amy Vogel Waters at 508-799-1232 or [watersa@worcesterma.gov](mailto:watersa@worcesterma.gov) or the ADA Coordinator at [disabilities@worcesterma.gov](mailto:disabilities@worcesterma.gov).

Commission on Elder Affairs  
Minutes November 22, 2021

Present: Robin Bahr Casey-Chair; Caroline Sullivan, Facely Henriquez, Fran Langille, Kathan Horne, Nghia Le, Noreen Shea, Paul Franco, Richard Pinkes, Richard Shea, Theresa Eckstrom, Linda Wincek-Moore, Patty Hainsworth, Amy Waters.

Robin called the meeting to order at the Worcester Senior Center at 4:05 pm. The minutes of the Oct. 25, 2021 Commission meeting were approved (m/s/a). The Senior Center Committee Report on the November 9, 2021 meeting was approved (m/s/a). Holiday wishes were exchanged and it was noted that there will be no regular meeting in December unless an emergency meeting is called.

Amy reviewed the following with the Commission: There have been 57 different remote programs since July; a potential funding source is considering proposals, Promoting Healthy Aging During the Pandemic and Beyond and/or Five Years of Fitness; Country Bank contributed \$2,000 for Senior Center programs to the Friends, Inc.; participation is 36 % lower than the same period pre-pandemic; the RFP for the Fitness Center management now has 4 addenda answering various questions for interested parties; staff receiving various support & training on behavioral health; Fitness Festivities and renovations received T&G and Spectrum coverage; 19,786 YOUTUBE views and 1305 Facebook followers; CHIP & Age Friendly Worcester discussed.

Patty reviewed the following: Thanksgiving celebration; Memory Café trip to concert; multicultural meals; winter farmer's market; floors in process of being stripped and waxed; trenching for solar canopy will close the Spurr Street entrance for approximately a week; Fitness Center renovations progress, with colors chosen; a roof leak into the lunchroom was addressed.

Linda reviewed the following: SHINE health insurance counseling need is up; met with city's new homeless outreach staff; many seniors have housing issues and staff support as best as possible with application assistance and optimizing income via other benefits; will be meeting with the Fair Housing office to see if more can be done.

The meeting adjourned at 4:50 pm. (m/s/a)

**Report to the Commission on Elder Affairs**  
**Senior Center Committee Meeting January 11, 2022**

Present: Robin Bahr Casey-Chair, Richard Shea, Fran Langille, Caroline Sullivan,  
Patty Hainsworth, Amy Waters

Robin called the meeting to order on webex at 12:03. The minutes of the 11/9/21 meeting were approved (m/s/a). The next meeting was confirmed for 2/8/22 at noon. The pandemic situation and the temporary closure of the Senior Center doors to the public was discussed.

Finances

Amy reported on and the committee discussed the following: FallonHealth donated \$200,000 for “Five Years of Fitness” at the WSC to pay for various activities; State COA funding should be coming in this month for FY’22, and it is not clear how the census will impact the FY’23 amount; FY’23 tax levy budget request will not include additional personnel or operating expenses unless it turns out that the operational costs for the new fitness center to be opened this spring is more than budgeted; Robin review the process which is continuing to award a fitness center management contract; Revenues will decrease by approximately \$2,200 due to the reduced rents for January’s closure; Most tenant licenses are due for one year renewal by the end of March, with one needing an extension in July; the Southeast Asian Coalition is helping to deliver meals in January for which we have offered to pay similar to last year; and a draft capital request was reviewed and focused on major technology upgrades-if funded, it would make WSC technology easier to use, more efficient and enhance senior center programming while reducing seniors’ isolation.

Operations

Patty reported on and the committee discussed the following: The current building and grounds needs and how the Department of Public Buildings hopes to address them through capital and operating budget requests-this includes but is not limited to a building envelope upgrade project as well as completion of the parking lot and fitness center projects; the demolition of the old porches is also being considered; Cultural meals and meal replacements continue as grab and go/delivery in January; AARP will not be doing taxes at the senior center again this year, but there will be some local referrals available in February; Remote program is expanding; and new technology offerings are listed in the Scoop.

The meeting adjourned at 1 p.m. (m/s/a)