

DATE: January 11, 2024
TO: Commission on Elder Affairs & Interested Parties
FROM: Frances Langille, Chair
SUBJECT: Meeting Notice and Agenda for January 22, 2024, 4:00 p.m. on TEAMS

The Commission on Elder Affairs is meeting on **Monday, January 22, 2024, 4 p.m. virtually on TEAMS**. Members who are unable to attend should contact Amy: watersa@worcesterma.gov.

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

Meeting ID: 272 905 549 732 Passcode: 89mior

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BUSINESS MEETING AGENDA

- I. Commission on Elder Affairs Chair
 - a. Call to Order/Roll Call
 - b. Approval of Commission Meeting Minutes of November 14, 2023
 - c. Approval of Senior Center Committee January 9, 2024 meeting report
- II. **Presentation: Rachel Shannon Brown, Senior Supervising Attorney, Community Legal Aid**
- III. 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
- IV. Commission on Elder Affairs Chair

-comments &/or questions from Commission members
-comments from others-up to 2 minutes each
-confirm next meeting- **February 26, 2024 at 4 pm, virtually on TEAMS.**
-Adjourn

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Commission on Elder Affairs
Minutes – November 27, 2023

Present: Fran Langille-Chair; Steve Corridori, Lovo Koliego, Shonee Austriaco, Kathan Horne, Noreen Shea, Thuha Le, Roxana Gomez Vargas, Richard Shea, Patty Hainsworth, Amy Waters.

Fran called the virtual meeting to order on TEAMS at 4:02 pm. The minutes of the Oct. 30, 2023 meeting of the Commission on Elder Affairs were approved (m/s/a). The Report to the Commission from the Senior Center Committee meeting on Nov. 14, 2023 were approved (m/s/a). The next meeting was confirmed for Jan. 22, 2024.

Steve Corridori, Financial Crime Specialist for Country Bank and a member of our Commission discussed some of the latest scams involving: common checks, romance, grandchild/relatives, lottery, IRS, gift cards, geek squad, credit repair, bank calls, cryptocurrency. He shared tips to deal with potential scams: Calm down. Don't be pressured. Never share personal or financial information, PIN's or passwords with anyone. Talk to your bank's branch manager or assistant branch manager. Most banks have fraud training and resources. Contact the phone number on the back of the debit card for your bank's customer service department. Don't trust google. Be aware that fraudsters are able to spoof phone numbers. Be aware that fraudsters have voice cloning technology. Do not click on any unknown or unverified links or attachments. Do not allow anyone you don't know to remote access into your computer. Only a scammer will demand payment via cryptocurrency or gift card. Never send a wire to any unauthenticated beneficiary, a third party or someone you have never met in person. If you encounter any situation requiring the immediate transfer of money that seems strange and out of the ordinary, it's highly unlikely to be legitimate-Hang up. There was discussion and Steve was thanked for his presentation which he will also make for the public at the Senior Center in February.

Amy reviewed highlights including: excellent progress on Dept. Development Plan goals; now more than 555 fitness center participants; success of summer walking club; met with new WRTA Administrator; solar panels in parking lot are producing energy which defrays the electricity costs for the senior center; advertising to fill the full time senior services assistant position vacated this month; Worcester Telegram feature photos of our Veteran's Day event; provided space and support to MA Office of Elder Affairs to hold focus groups; and was interviewed by UMASS Boston Gerontologists re: inclusivity in our senior center.

Patty reported on: roof replacement in process; lighting repairs; carpets/mats; major programs this month including Veterans, Robert Goddard talk, and Thanksgiving & Craft Fair; Kathan was thanked for serving Thanksgiving meals; December will be festive with much music; today the new part-time dementia friendly coordinator started; in process of hiring a new part-time program assistant also.

Holiday greetings were shared, and Fran adjourned the meeting at 5:00 pm (m/s/a).

Report to the Commission on Elder Affairs
Senior Center Committee January 9, 2024

Present: Richard Shea-Chair, Facely Henriquez, Kathan Horne, Noreen Shea,
Patty Hainsworth, Amy Waters

Richard called the meeting to order at 12:10 pm on TEAMS. The minutes of Oct. 10 and Nov. 14, 2024 were approved (m/s/a). The next meeting was confirmed for Feb. 13, 2024 at noon on TEAMS.

Amy reviewed and the committee discussed the following: The Governor's budget cuts do not affect our COA formula grant; contingency funding is being expended on carpet needs on the first floor as well as cubicle work stations on the second floor-the committee voted acceptance of these allocations (m/s/a); the committee deferred to Amy re: the FY'25 budget request; 4 rental agreement terms end in March 2024 and will be considered after more research; an RFP for the vacant wing development should be coming out in the next few months; new part-time staff for dementia and program assistance are working out well and a new full-time senior services assistant is expected to start at the end of the month.

Patty reviewed and the committee discussed the following: snow plowing going well this year; carpet project continues with delays; working on various room changes to accommodate staff and organize storage; today's bone density/grip strength screenings were very popular; another new popular program is Dance Fusion; A second sewing class was added; upcoming programs include Chat GPT, Social Security 101, tax preparation, Secretary Chen's visit; Black History concert, Barbie movie & discussion, Elvis concert, and Friends is running their first trip after the pandemic in March. It was noted that when possible, new programs to come in the next month are highlighted in a box in the previous months' SCOOP.

The meeting adjourned at 1:05 pm (m/s/a)