

Join by Webex: Senior Center Committee

12:00 PM - 1:00 PM Tuesday, Aug 11 2020 (UTC-04:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)

Meeting link:

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Meeting number: 160 090 8805 Password: x2JHFmJNk57

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Meeting Notice and Agenda
Senior Center Committee of the Commission on Elder Affairs

Tuesday August 11, 2020 12 noon via Webex

The next meeting of the Senior Center Committee will be held on **Tuesday August 11th, 2020 at 12:00 p.m.** via Webex. If you cannot attend, please respond to this e-mail or call Jennifer Linch at 508-799-1232 x48009. Thank you.

- I. Senior Center Committee Chair
 - a. Call to Order / Approval of July 14th, 2020 minutes
 - b. Confirm date and time of next meeting

- II. Elder Affairs Staff Reports and Recommendations
 - A. Finances
 1. Public and Private Funding
 2. Program Allocations
 3. Leases
 4. Development

 - B. Operations
 1. Staffing
 2. Facility and Grounds
 3. Programs
 4. Reopening

- III. Public Comment (up to 2 minutes each)
- IV. Adjournment

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REPORT TO THE COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS

Senior Center Committee Meeting 7/14/20 via WebEx

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

Robin called the meeting to order at 12:04 pm. The minutes of 6/16/20 were approved (m/s/a). The next meeting was confirmed for Tuesday 8/11/20 at noon.

Finances: Amy reported on and discussed the following with the committee – The FY'21 budget is split into funding sources, estimating that the overall reduction will come from state COA and Friends; There will be revisions to the budget once the amount of funds available and actual expenses become more clear; Amy gave input to the city administration on potential uses of Cares Act funds for which guidelines include Council on Aging expenses due to COVID 19; Contracts are in process for St. Paul's, Ascentria and Central MA Housing Alliance as approved last month; and, Leases remain on hold although there has been discussion about QCC utilizing the kitchen for videos and possibly cultural and/or other meals for curbside pickup.

Operations: Patty reported on and discussed the following with the committee – Catholic Charities is beginning to explore with us the return to work for senior aides; the renovation of the parking lot continues; there is now a concrete slab where the FitLot will be installed; due to renovations there is practically no parking at the Center currently and access is through the front door only, with an appropriate sanitization/check in site; the community gardens are doing well; Remote programming includes concerts, Worcester Art Museum tours, Animal Rescue League, Ecotarium, many exercise programs, music therapy and more; Interactional remote programming includes zoom groups, ESL, group conference calls and more; Dawn reported on her development of a conference call meeting with the gentle aerobics class students, mainly age 85+; assisting with census completion and looking into helping seniors connect with technology.

There was discussion about different issues and questions related to re-opening the building. There will be a walkthrough of the building with an interdisciplinary team next week to begin to evaluate what's feasible. Caroline shared steps that Elder Services has taken. Amy and Patty talked about consultations with various city administrators and the library. Fran suggested that a survey of seniors be taken regarding their interest in coming back to the building. Amy agreed to create one similar to those done for tenants and instructors. Amy will also follow up regarding Cares Act funds to address the isolation caused by the virus via technology and other eligible Council on Aging costs. Members were encouraged to communicate with Amy about any ideas/concerns they have on re-opening or programming as the process continues. There were no public visitors in attendance. The meeting adjourned at 12:58 pm.