

Town of Hingham



Council on Aging Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 8, 2022
11:30 AM

Remote meeting via Zoom:
Dial-in number: 929-436-2866
Meeting ID: 884 4001 2220
Password 789785

Zoom Link: <https://web.zoom.us/join>

This meeting is being held remotely as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 20 of the Acts of 2021 temporarily amending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording.

Attending:

- David Alschuler (Chair)
- Cindy King – Frode
- Karen Johnson
- Eleanor Letterie
- Terry MacDonald
- Joe Millburg
- Joe Nevins
- Jean Silverio
- Sara Smithson (late)
- Jennifer Young (DES Director)
- Art Robert Assistant Town Administrator

Absent:

- Deborah Sullivan (Secretary) (*Minutes transcribed from recording*)

1. Call to order at 11:32 am

- a. Quorum determined.
- b. Agreement that today's meeting will be recorded.

2. Chairman's Remarks - David Alschuler

- a. Welcome to Art Robert, Guest, Assistant Town Administrator, Jennifer reports to Art.
- b. Art provided background and here to understand how COA supports Jennifer's work and how Town can support COA further.
- c. David acknowledged Jennifer's efforts given reduced staffing.
- d. Next meeting will likely be in person with lifting of mask mandate.

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes from January 18, 2022 and February 8, 2022 Meeting

- a. Motion to accept the minutes by Jean; seconded by Cindy.
- b. Passed unanimously.

4. Director's Report – Jennifer Young, Senior Center Director

- a. Director's full report attached hereto and incorporated herein by reference.
- b. Mask mandate lifted with return to in-person activities recently.
- c. All new and existing programs are listed in the Monthly Newsletter.
- d. Mary Fragoli, new Outreach Coordinator, started Monday and hit the ground running.

5. Committee Updates

- a. Marketing and Rebranding – Joe Nevins
 - i. Meeting will be held this coming Monday. Sara Smithson will be joining committee. Will further explore re-naming at next meeting as well as partnering with Library and Hingham Recreation to broaden outreach.
 - ii. David suggested using front page of Central Times to highlight new programs. Front page of Central Times currently contains artwork on front to grab attention. Welcomed thoughts from others on COA.
 - iii. David suggested looking at other town's publications for thoughts on what we should do. Consider adding index at least to front page.
 - iv. Jean and Joe. N. and Joe. M. prefer more graphic image with limited text on front page.
 - v. Jennifer may be able to add index to the graphic image on front page.

- vi. Joe Nevins provided update on committee activity including oral history project with Hingham Historical Commission and press release for UMASS study.
 - vii. Not much traction yet with the HHC. Will continue efforts.
 - viii. Press release for UMASS study is being worked on my Jen.
 - ix. David expressed interest in pushing re-naming of Center to forefront.
- b. “Friends” Study Committee
- i. Jennifer’s research revealed that there was at one time a friends committee in Hingham. Need someone to research town records further on this issue before meeting with Town administrators.
 - ii. Jean reported on Weymouth COA Friend’s Group structure.
- c. Volunteer Enrichment – Cindy King-Frode
- i. Nothing new to report.
- d. Building Committee – Jean Silverio
- i. Meets tonight. Further report at next meeting.

6. UMB Needs Assessments

- a. Moving ahead.
- b. Draft survey document has been circulated and another meeting will be held early next week.
- c. Survey will likely go out mid-April to 3500 seniors over the age of 60. Residents under 60 will be able to access survey on line.
- d. David will share survey instrument.
- e. Questions to be answered by study have been developed.
- f. Next steps include planning for next 10 plus years and how to address needs of community.
- g. The time frame for findings is October.
- h. Further report at next meeting.

7. Nominating Committee – Jean reported in Deb’s absence

- a. Joe Nevins has agreed to accept nomination for Vice- Chair position.

- b. Jean Motion to appoint Joe Nevins to position of Vice-Chair, seconded by Karen. Unanimously approved.

8. Human Rights Commission

- a. David addressed the new commission in town focused on Human Rights.
- b. David sent email to all regarding purpose and operating form re: this new commission. We are one of the groups in town designated to nominate members for this commission.
- c. Sara Smithson volunteered to take the role.

9. Volunteer Appreciation Month

- a. Jennifer reported that April is Volunteer Appreciation Month.
- b. Traditionally we had done recognition in September. Jennifer would like to shift this to April.
- c. Jennifer has made executive decisions to shift this and is working with Terry to put together a gift to recognize volunteers to be provided in April.
- d. Would like further discussion to recognize Dawn Sibor as recipient of award recognition as volunteer of year.

10. Other Business

- a. Karen put forth Old Ship Church as an option for new location for Senior Center.
- b. Jen advised that she recalls that this had been explored in past and that Town did not find it a viable option due to parking issues, lack of elevators and historic designation.
- c. Art advised of challenges of in finding a location with accessibility.
- d. UMASS needs assessment will assist with this determination and whether the current police station can be used as viable option for future location of Senior Center.
- e. Jennifer recognizing the need to like and share our Facebook page to get word out about offerings.
- f. Jennifer question to Art re: next month's meeting – Hybrid option viable?
- g. Art advised we have ability to conduct virtual meetings through July 15. There is interest in maintaining the ability to conduct remote meetings. Art has not had conversations regarding the Hybrid option. Will work through obtaining answers over coming months.
- h. Jennifer posed the question of April meeting – can it be hybrid?
- i. Art will look for direction on that question.

- j. Jennifer reminder to David on future programming and offerings - in-person vs. remote vs. hybrid options. David discussed benefits of offering hybrid options for future programs and offerings.

11. Motion to adjourn at 12:32

- a. Cindy moved and Jean seconded. Unanimously approved.

Next Meeting April 12th at 11:30 a. m.