

Pursuant to Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A, §, § 18-25, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Town of Hingham Council on Aging to take place as follows:



Town of Hingham
Council on Aging
Tuesday, May 12, 2026
1:00 PM

Remote Meeting Via Zoom

Webinar ID: 856 3113 4195

Passcode: 02043

Website: <https://zoom.us/join>

Call in: 929 205 6099

And

In- Person

224 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

Minutes:

Present: Sara Smithson (Vice Chair), Jean Silverio, Karen Johnson, Leon Merian, Cindy King, Josh Ross, Megan Hansen, Jennifer Young

Present online: Elaine Ward

Not Present: Joe Nevens (Chair), Ethel Franks, Rory Earley

Call to order – Vice Chair

Remarks – Sara Smithson, Vice Chair: Recap disappointing outcome of Town Meeting. Recognized effort made by COA and others in community to move project forward. Differing opinions heard. Select Board held a meeting to talk about next steps, though nothing concrete has been discussed. Committee chair meeting will be held on May 13, 2026. Sara Smithson will attend.

Minutes of April 14 and April 28, 2026

Motion to approve April 14 minutes made by Jean Silverio, unanimous.

Motion to approve April 28 minutes made by Jean Silverio, unanimous.

Committee Updates

Building Committee: Building Committee has not met since Town Meeting. Committee Chair is waiting on direction from Town Administration. Director met with Tom Mayo. Tom is organizing information based on what was heard from residents and at Town Meeting.

Nominating Committee: Appointments will need to be made for 3 seats soon to be vacated. The nomination committee needs to be activated, meet and determine nominations for Chair and Vice Chair roles. Terms end June 30th. There will be one more COA meeting before terms end. Leon,

Karen and Megan volunteered to comprise the nominating committee. Set up a public meeting with an agenda to discuss nominations. Present nominees to BOD at June meeting. Majority of committee (COA) need to be 60+ years of age. Next appointments all need to be over 60.

Future Meeting Schedule: June 9, 2026 at 1:00.

Other Business - Items not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance

Director's Report was reviewed for the month of April.

South Shore Elder Services lost their designation as the ASAP for all of their communities. OCES has been appointed as designee for those 11 communities. Programs are migrating over in steps.

What can be done here for solutions in the immediate future? Expanding outdoor programming.

Future Agenda Items

Public Comment:

Don Marsters: 18 Gilford Road Hingham. Founded Hingham ReWired group for recent retirees. Interested in serving on the COA.

Larry Wetzel: 239 High Street, Hingham. Came to the meeting because of the in-person option. On the other side of the Police Area house, is that town property? Is it possible to use that space to use for parking?

Josh Ross: The HCAL Building Committee explore options extensively for the Town Hall options. That lot is outside of the recommended 300 foot radius from the lot to the front door. For staff it would require paving and lights. Trees would most likely have to be cut down for the pathway.

There may be an option with the front green as parking. Jennifer Young: Hingham Recreation uses that lot during the summer camp months for pick up and drop off.

Anita Ryan: 37 Baker Hill Drive, Hingham. Applied for COA through Talent Bank Application.

Motion to adjourn made by Josh Ross.

Unanimous.

This meeting is being held remotely/or in person as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 and all other applicable laws 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.