

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, June 9, 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

Hingham Center for Active Living
224 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

Minutes

Present: Joe Nevins, Sara Smithson, Josh Ross, Karen Johnson, Jean Silverio, Cindy King, Leon Merian, Rory Early, Megan Hansen, Elaine Ward.

Not Present: Ethel Franks

Call to order – Chair

Remarks - Chair and Vice Chair:

Joe Nevins: Cindy Jean and Ethel are departing the COA. This is a transitional meeting. This is Joe Neven's last meeting as Chair. Needs of senior residents remain unchanged. COA Members brought individual skill sets and contact groups to move the project along. Reach out to FOCAL regarding their policy of allocating some of their donated funds to support programming needs etc. of the HCAL.

Sara Smithson: There was an *HCAL Project Idea* email available to the public, with a deadline submission of 6/8/2026.

COA Member Karen Johnson asked about recourse for the process of Town Meeting. Joe Nevins suggested offering ideas to town elected officials for how Town meeting works. Process related questions could be brought to the moderator.

Sara Smithson: The HCAL Building Committee has not been discharged. Responsibility remains to the seniors and the community in general. COA should review strategic plan for action items that need to be updated.

Joe Nevins: The COA should continue to educate the community on the programs and services of the HCAL. Population will continue to grow (over 60).

Josh Ross: Highlight programs that we don't have because of the space issues here, in comparison to other centers that have the space needed.

Directors Report reviewed. Attached.

Minutes of May 12, 2026 reviewed. Motion made by Jean Silverio, seconded by Elaine Ward, unanimous.

Committee Updates

Building Committee: HCAL Project Idea emails will be reviewed. Determination on how remaining funds allocated to project can be expended. SB will provide direction to the committee regarding its' future charge and would also need to appoint a new COA liaison if the committee remains active. Any interested COA members should contact the COA Chair.

Nominating Committee: Leon Merian, Karen Johnson and Megan Hansen

- i. Motion for Sara Smithson as Chair
 - 1. Elaine Ward: Yes
 - 2. Rory Earley: Yes
 - 3. Megan Hansen: Yes
 - 4. Joe Nevins: Yes
 - 5. Joshua Ross: Yes
 - 6. Karen Johnson: Yes
 - 7. Jean Silverio: Yes
 - 8. Cindy King: Yes
 - 9. Leon Merian: Yes
- ii. Motion for Josh Ross as Vice Chair
 - 1. Elaine Ward: Yes
 - 2. Rory Earley: Yes
 - 3. Megan Hansen: Yes
 - 4. Joe Nevins: Yes
 - 5. Sara Smithson: Yes
 - 6. Karen Johnson: Yes
 - 7. Jean Silverio: Yes
 - 8. Cindy King: Yes
 - 9. Leon Merian: Yes
- iii. Motion for Elaine Ward as Secretary
 - 1. Rory Earley: Yes
 - 2. Megan Hansen: Yes
 - 3. Joe Nevins: Yes
 - 4. Sara Smithson: Yes
 - 5. Josh Ross: Yes
 - 6. Karen Johnson: Yes
 - 7. Jean Silverio: Yes
 - 8. Cindy King: Yes
 - 9. Leon Merian: Yes
- iv. Minutes of May 21, 2026: Motion to accept: Leon. Second: Megan. Unanimous.

Possible Vote Council on Aging Officers completed under Nominating Committee agenda.

Future Meeting Schedule

Other Business - Items not reasonably anticipated 48 hours in advance

Future Agenda Items

Public Comment

Susan Wetzel, 239 High Street: What are the differences between FOCAL, Invest in Hingham and HinghamLink?

FOCAL: Friends of the HCAL non profit, 50C3 to support fundraising for the HCAL.

Invest In Hingham: Established to do political activity for a ballot question.

HinghamLink: Established during COVID to help seniors during pandemic. Linking seniors with for volunteers to help them.

Joe Nevens: Formally thanks Ethel Franks for her contributions to the COA.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn made by Jean Silverio. Seconded by Cindy King. 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.

Director's Report

May 2026

Hingham Center for Active Living (HCAL)

PROGRAMS & EVENTS

- May 4 — Connections with South Elementary.
- May 11 — Mother's Day Lunch hosted 32 members at the HCAL.
- May 13 — Discovery presented The History of Hats. 40 participants.
- May 21 — Men's Group program is off to a slow start. HCAL will bring in guest moderators to encourage participation. Office Tom Ford will moderate the next meeting on June 11th at 12:30. Men's Group participation is free; however members can reserve a pizza lunch for \$5 in advance.
- May 27th — The Midterms: Part 1 of a 2 part series. 20 members.

MONTHLY STATISTICS — FY25 (JULY 2025 – MAY 2026)

U = Unduplicated Count D = Duplicated Count *Volunteer hours may not be reflected until the following month.

Metric	FY24	FY25	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Membership													
New Members	282	301	7	13	31	29	19	30	19	31	27	19	21
Participation													
Participation (U)	1,161	1,052	355	347	458	548	415	495	286	334	462	413	389
Participation Guests	228	259	22	14	18	24	5	9	11	13	24	24	29
Participation (D)	13,206	13,730	1,044	1,057	1,473	1,708	1,239	1,347	688	845	1,188	1,372	1,101
Programs													
Programs (U)	159	173	65	62	76	77	66	64	58	68	69	70	74
Programs (D)	2,296	2,293	204	182	225	241	196	221	186	190	207	223	207
Transportation													
Medical Rides (U)	54	22	1	1	16	19	11	15	12	9	16	17	11
Medical Rides (D)	792	94	2	2	51	56	36	53	32	23	54	46	26

Metric	FY24	FY25	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May
Non-Medical Rides (U)	85	46	8	7	20	31	44	49	21	19	20	44	19
Non-Medical Rides (D)	986	539	39	27	65	142	148	184	77	39	75	108	88
Rides to Center (U)	43	152	39	29	35	19	30	26	7	14	17	13	32
Rides to Center (D)	536	1,476	152	115	72	85	86	81	29	37	69	43	115
Volunteers													
Volunteers (U)*	60	89	31	30	36	34	34	30	30	33	41	51	38
Volunteer Hours (D)*	4,120	5,614	397	321	419	482	344	320	236	238	451	429	293
Outreach													
Outreach (U)	282	280	34	28	22	95	43	32	35	21	54	27	39
Outreach (D)	613	673	41	42	43	113	59	41	46	31	66	35	70

OCES TRANSITION

Directors meeting held on May 18, 2026. Initial service transition plans discussed. OCES conducted mass interviews for new positions to provide coverage for expanded communities. SSES Area Agency on Aging designation remains effective until September 2026. OCES will support designation moving to the Old Colony Planning Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Jennifer Young

Director, Hingham Center for Active Living