

Senior Center Committee of Commission on Elder Affairs Notice/Agenda

The next meeting of the Senior Center Committee will be held on **Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 4:00 p.m. at 128 Providence Street**. Members who cannot attend this meeting should contact Amy at 508-799-1232 X48013 or watersa@worcesterma.gov. (Please note the day/time is different than the usual 2nd Tuesday of the month at noon)

AGENDA

- I. Senior Center Committee Chair
 - a. Call to Order / Approval of minutes for February 8 and March 8, 2022
 - b. Confirm date and time of next meeting-May 10 at noon.

- 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/Closing

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

The City of Worcester does not discriminate on the basis of disability in admission to, access to, or operation of its programs, services or activities. The City does not discriminate on the basis of disability in its hiring or employment practices. The Division of Elder Affairs will provide auxiliary aids and services, written materials in alternative formats, and reasonable modifications in policies and procedures to persons with disabilities upon advance request. Please contact Amy Vogel Waters at 508-799-1232 x48013 or watersa@worcesterma.gov or the ADA Coordinator at disabilities@worcesterma.gov

REPORT TO COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS
Senior Center Committee meeting - March 8, 2022

Present: Robin Bahr Casey-Chair, Caroline Sullivan, Patty Hainsworth,
Amy Waters

Robin called the meeting to order at noon at 128 Providence Street. The February minutes could not be officially approved due to lack of quorum. Changing the April meeting date was discussed and Amy will poll all members.

Finances: Amy reported on and the committee discussed the following: status of city and state funding; timeline for budget planning; preliminary projections of spending for fy'22 and budgeting for fy'23; program evaluation process; potential goals and objectives, addressing medical transportation costs; piloting Grandpad technology program if feasible; City auditor confirmed market rate for office space at \$18-\$22/square foot; and working to finalize five license renewals.

Operations: Patty reported on and the committee discussed the following: One senior aide already had his last day and the other two will be leaving shortly; it is expected that the Dept. of Public Facilities (DPF) will increase the cleaning company hours to fill the gap; DPF is also hiring landscapers to take care of the grounds; The Center reopened on Feb. 14th and participation is building up; the St. Patrick's Day even will be on site as well as online, featuring Parade Grand Marshalls Augustus and Hirsh, corned beef & cabbage as well as a concert by the McCrites; Volunteer Recognition this April will be a special "Grab and Go" in which we hope Commission members will partake; for volunteer recognition there will also be a speaker about retirement planning/civic engagement; thanks to AARP, two shred events will take place in the parking lot; and the fitness center renovation is continuing although the windows are still delayed.

The meeting adjourned at 1:15 pm.

Report to the Commission on Elder Affairs
Senior Center Committee Meeting February 8, 2022

Present: Robin Bahr Casey-Chair; Richard Shea, Fran Langille, Caroline Sullivan, Patty Hainsworth and Amy Waters.

Robin called the meeting to order on Webex at 12:05 p.m. The 1/11/22 meeting minutes were approved (m/s/a). The next meeting was confirmed for 3/8/22 at noon. Amy noted that the Senior Center doors will reopen on Monday 2/14/22 (and Elvis will be in the house).

Finances: Amy reported on, and the committee discussed the following: State COA funding should be coming in as expected this month; the preliminary FY'23 budget meeting went well with discussion on the full cost of operating the new fitness center as well as the capital request for various technology; As part of the budget process additional goals and objectives will be created including at least one to address racial equity; the rising cost of transportation via Safeway needs to be addressed; special outreach to seniors in five housing authority buildings is planned; and, the Committee voted to renew the one year licenses for tenants coming due on 3/31/22 including: Seven Hills-RSVP/Senior Companion, QCC classrooms, Wellness Works Yoga, Pastoral Counseling, and Our Deaf Survivors Center (m/s/a);

Operations: Patty reported on, and the committee discussed the following: repairs being made to roof and front door; next month we will lose our senior aides but it is expected that the Public Facilities Dept. will contract for cleaning during business hours; the fence in the parking lot is down as the Solar Canopy project is nearly completed; good progress is being made on the fitness center renovation despite supply chain problems; began the process of ordering furniture, fixtures and equipment for the fitness center; reopening the senior center next week should go smoothly with most program instructors returning and large events limited to 50 people; the Board of Health lifted the mask mandate as of 2/18/22, so the senior center will operate as "mask friendly;" Black History month will be celebrated with "Songs of Freedom;" Technology teaching will continue; St. Patrick's Day will be hybrid of onsite and remote; remote programming continues with new programs; a new acting class is being introduced; multicultural meals are being phased back in as grab/go/delivery as well as onsite; AARP is not offering tax prep assistance at the Senior Center but there are other limited resources for referrals.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m. (m/s/a)