

Senior Center Committee of Commission on Elder Affairs Notice/Agenda

The Senior Center Committee meeting will be held on:

Tuesday October 10, 2023, at NOON via Microsoft Teams-

Join on your computer, mobile app or room device

[Click here to join the meeting](#) Meeting ID: 262 765 228 404 Passcode: bVYwgW

[Download Teams](#) | [Join on the web](#)

Or call in (audio only) [+1 469-998-7682,,982598033#](#) Phone Conference ID: 982 598 033#

[Find a local number](#) | [Reset PIN](#)

AGENDA

- I. Senior Center Committee Chair
 - a. Call to Order / Approval of minutes for Sept. 12, 2023
 - b. Confirm date and time of next meeting-Nov. 14,2023 at noon on Teams.

- 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 – SEPTEMBER 12, 2023

PRESENT: Richard Shea-Chair, Kathan Horne, Fran Langille, Facely Henriquez, Patty Hainsworth, Amy Waters.

Richard called the meeting to order at noon on zoom. The minutes of the June 13, 2023 meeting were approved (m/s/a). The next meeting was confirmed for October 10, 2023 at noon on zoom.

A moment of silence was held to honor the memory of Caroline Sullivan.

Amy reviewed the status of all funding sources and the allocations which had been approved in May/June 2023. She noted that the state COA funding will increase substantially because the legislature approved an increase in the formula from \$12/elder to \$14/elder and according to the US Census there were approximately 10,000 more seniors living in Worcester in 2020 compared to 2010. Our FY'24 state COA funding = 39,950 seniors X \$14/senior = \$559,300. After the increases already approved for FY'24 allocations, there remains over \$100,000 in contingency funding available. The Senior Center Committee approved the following allocations to begin expending the available funds:

- \$5,000 for the Food Security Program operated by the Southeast Asian Coalition, contingent on their enumerating the services provided to Worcester's seniors. (m/s/a)
- \$26,893 to fund 2 temporary 15 hour/week positions: a Dementia Friendly Coordinator to assist the Operations Director with providing dementia friendly programs and services; and a Program Assistant to assist the Senior Center Coordinator with the details in implementing on-site and remote programming. (m/s/a)
- \$26,000 for equipment and supplies including a steamer/combi for the kitchen, divider for the wellness room, a back door entrance sign, Files of Life for distribution, tablecloths, cubicle dividers and computers for growing staff and misc. supplies. (m/s/a)

This leaves \$50,843 for additional allocations and emergencies.

Patty reported on implementing a new fob system, continuing HVAC problems and other facility issues. She also reported on programs with the summer being very active with summer concerts bundled with speakers, the Woo Sox presentation and more. She reviewed September programs including six multi-cultural events.

Amy noted that the leases are all set for now and an arrangement in the works for blood pressure clinics. She also noted that there has been little progress in developing the vacant space but that the Commission will be involved before any action is taken.

Richard reviewed the meeting schedule and Kathan reported on the documentary: *Live to 100: Secrets of the Blue Zones*. She said she believes it connects to our mission for the Senior Center Committee and the Elder Affairs Commission. The four-part series launched on 8/31/2023 on Netflix. (To learn more, Dan Buettner's book *The Blue Zones Secrets for Living Longer: Lessons from the Healthiest Places on Earth* can also be referenced). She suggested the series would be wonderful to offer to our Worcester Senior Center participants and maybe even some type of future program. Patty noted she will explore this and other videos she has learned about that may be relevant for programs.

The meeting adjourned at 1:10 p.m. (m/s/a)