

COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS
Minutes of May 20, 2013

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ruth Miller, Chair; Robin Bahr Casey; Jocelyn Jacques-Curewitz; Theresa Eckstrom; Steve Greenberg; Steven Smajkiewicz; Gail Smith; Elaine Wrubel

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Tom Cullinane; Chris Evans; Carolyn Grenier; Ursula Hanus;

MEMBER ABSENT: Nick Kaltsas

STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT: Amy Vogel Waters; Linda Wincek-Moore; Suki Lapin; Gary Rosen & Ron Motta, Friends of Worcester's Senior Center

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. at 128 Providence St. by Ruth Miller, Chair. There wasn't a quorum present until later in the meeting, so the minutes of April 22, 2013 were not officially approved as mailed. Ruth read a card sent by the former Assistant Director of Elder Affairs in appreciation for the opportunity to work with the Commission. Amy announced that Ruth will be leaving the Commission and moving to Andover for her new job. Her contributions were recognized.

The status of the goals and objectives were then reviewed, including: the proposed FY 14 budget; the Senior Center Committee's requesting need/wish lists from programs to help in the allocation process; a proposed new table of organization for the Office of Elder Affairs; City Council budget hearing scheduled for Tuesday, June 4th between 4 and 7 pm; a 5 day/week transportation monitor has been secured; working with French & Creole speaking Haitians who would like to start some programs at the center; volunteer efforts for Earth Day and the Keller Williams RED day; the proposed new division in the city which will cover building services; the completion of the Honeywell/Esco energy savings project; Verizon preparing to put a cell tower on the building; City administration looking into full or partial demolition of the vacant 1926 wing; and two leases are up for renewal- one plans on renewing and the other is considering it per Senior Center Committee review.

Suki reported on upcoming and previous programs at the senior center, including an art exhibit by our senior center participants; the Summer Concert Series beginning June 21st; and more. Linda reported on outreach activities including "Feel Good Bingo" coming in Aug/Sept; Elder Care Fair at The Manor; a vendor fair for Reliant Case Managers; the Healthy Eating and Chronic Pain classes finishing soon; the Matter of Balance classes starting in June; a Clark University intern developing an evidence based program "Your Health is Golden" for Vietnamese participants; Two workers from St. Paul's Outreach will cover during the periods when Yung and Linda are teaching other classes; and the Walking Club will be taking a field trip to Boston Harbor, with transportation provided by the state's Keep Moving program.

Gary reported on the proposed funding to be voted on by the Board of the Friends of Worcester's Senior Center. He also reported that their kick-off is scheduled for July 9th. Ron reported on the status of the Thursday Bingo, noting a successful inspection by the Lottery Commission.

The next meeting was confirmed for June 24, 2013 at 4:00 p.m. The meeting adjourned.