

COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS

Minutes of June 27, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Theresa Eckstrom, Chair; Robin Bahr Casey; Sandra Bisson; Tom Cullinane; Meg Coffin; Chris Evans; Paul Johnson; Nghia Le; Elizabeth Nguyen; Richard Pinkes; Gail Schuyler

MEMBERS ABSENT: Matthew Fonseca; Ursula Hanus

STAFF & GUESTS PRESENT: Amy Vogel Waters, Patty Hainsworth, Linda Wincek Moore, Barbara Drapos-RSVP; Njeri Gichohi

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Theresa announced that Elaine Wrubel had to resign from the Commission due to a work commitment. It was agreed that there would be no July or August meetings unless there is an urgent reason.

The minutes of May 23, 2016 were approved as mailed. m/s/a

The Report of the Senior Center Committee of June 14, 2016 was approved as mailed. m/s/a

Barbara Drapos gave a presentation on the RSVP Worcester Area Volunteers Program and noted how well they work with Elder Affairs/Senior Center. She discussed their current focus on impacting hunger, educating seniors about scams with the "Fraud Squad" and helping veterans and their family. Their current message is "Volunteer for a great cause, a just cause or just because...." She also answered members' questions.

Njeri Gichohi was introduced as being interested in becoming a Commission member. She is an attorney with Fallon Health working on Medicare issues.

Amy gave the goals and objective update, highlighting the following items: FY 17 state funding is still unsure and the city's funding will be level. The budget that City Council voted on and approved was distributed to members; The Friends of Worcester's Senior Center has pledged \$15,000 for FY 17. The Prevention Wellness Trust Fund will continue for another year. Theresa noted that the SHINE Health Insurance Federal budgeted line item is threatened to be eliminated for FY 2017. Amy will find out more information and relay it to members. An RSVP volunteer continues to help with the front desk until a Senior Aide can be found.

Patty reported on the building, as well as upcoming programs and final FY 2016 statistics. There are student interns working at the center this summer. Patty discussed the transitioning of the Over 50 exercise program and the introduction to exercise with a live instructor instead of a DVD.

Linda reported on outreach efforts, including the Veteran's Stand Down Day on Grove Street. The various evidence-based programs continue. Amy reported that a person from Clark is finishing up the video of the Shared Worlds event.

The meeting adjourned.