

Holliston Council on Aging  
Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting

September 9, 2020  
1:00PM

By zoom: 811 7714 9113

By telephone: 1-646-558-8656, meeting code 81177149113#

Members Present by Zoom (roll call):

Yvette Cain, Frank Caron, Bob Hopkins, Bob Malone

Members Present by Telephone (roll call):

Millie Bedard, Carmen Chiango

Staff Present by Zoom:

Linda Marshall, Marty Schneier

Associates Present by Zoom:

Kathy Anguish

Associates Present by Telephone:

Shirley Hopkins

Bob Malone called the meeting to order at 1:00PM. He read the statement regarding the suspension of certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law and the authorized use of remote participation. He noted that a roll call of attendance will be taken; that all votes during the meeting will be by roll call (to satisfy the legalities of teleconferencing), and that any motions, seconds, or discussion should be preceded by the member's announcing their name.

The first item on the agenda was the report of Senior Center activity by Linda Marshall, Director, which had been provided to members prior to the meeting. Under building issues, Linda reported that James Keast, Town Facilities Manager, has been working with her on several items, including the threshold door repair, dishwasher installation, and safety shields for distancing. Plans for proper distancing, necessary signage, etc. are posted. New locks and keys will be installed on entry doors. Due to unsatisfactory cleaning, and working with James Keast, we have switched cleaners, using the same as other town buildings.

The Finance Committee has recommended the closing of the Building Revolving Fund due to inactivity. Funds remaining will be used for installation of the new dishwasher, and door locks and keys for the building. A Council vote to close the account will be made by the end of the year.

Linda Sottile's final day will be September 16, and Bryan Perkins has been hired as Assistant Director to replace her. He will begin September 14, to have a bit of overlap with Linda S. We welcome Bryan and he will join us at the October meeting.

Long-time driver Mike Westerman retired in July. Debbie Dupuis, full time driver, remains on 35 hours, and is contributing in many other ways besides driving. The other part time drivers as working as needed.

Fuel assistance season will begin soon (which is done for the entire town, not just seniors). Other programs are continuing. Linda Marshall and Marty are working staggered hours in the building, to cover ongoing activities for service to seniors, including meal delivery service and critical transportation, as well as outreach contacts. Visitors to the building are by appointment only. SHINE (Peg Rowe) will continue remotely through the open enrollment season. A new program entitled Singing For Well-Being will be done a on three month trial basis via zoom.

The planned flu clinic will be conducted at the Senior Center by CVS and Holliston Health Dept. staff. More information will be forthcoming. On September 22 a drive-in concert – limited to 40 people – will be held, supported with a Holliston Cultural Council grant. On October 27 a drive-by cookout and trick or treating will be held for take-home.

Linda is submitting a grant request to Metrowest Health Foundation for purchase of tablets and training assistance for seniors for approx.. \$18,000, to help alleviate isolation in seniors.

New liaisons are Tim Maxwell and Mark Whittaker for the Finance Committee and John Cronin for the Select Board.

A request for funding from the SSF for the following were made by motion (Bob Hopkins) and seconded (Frank Caron), voted unanimously by roll call:.

Concert In Your Car – Sept. 22     \$ 300 (credit card)

Halloween Cookout Take-Out     \$ 500 (credit card)

Singing for Well BeingThere     \$40 per month or amount of donations

Under new business, Linda described a request under CARES Act funding for AV equipment for use at the Center for virtual connections for staff and seniors, which was approved unanimously by roll call vote (motion made by Bob Hopkins, seconded by Frank Caron).

Also under new business a motion to convene as a Committee of The Whole for purposes of nominating and filling the vacancy on the Council was made (Bob Hopkins) and seconded (Yvette Cain), and voted unanimously by roll call vote. The Committee then discussed and approved the application of Kathy Anguish, Associate Member, to be appointed to the current vacant position on the Council. The motion to approve was made by Millie Bedard and seconded by Frank Caron. The vote to approve was unanimous by roll call vote. Bob Malone will notify the Town Administrator and Select Board of our action and request.

Expressions of gratitude for the excellent and loyal work of staff in difficult times, and for sympathy for Linda's responsibilities caring for her mother, were extended by all Council members.

There was no participation by the public, and no public comment.

The next meeting of the Council is scheduled for Wednesday October 14, beginning at 1PM, with the format to be by zoom and telephone participation.

The motion to adjourn was made by Bob Hopkins, seconded by Millie Bedard, and voted unanimously by roll call. The meeting ended at 1:56PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin Robert Malone