

**Holliston Council on Aging**  
**Meeting Minutes, November 10, 2021**

**Members Present:**

Yvette Cain, Frank Caron, Carmen Chiango, Bob Malone (remote), Kathy Anguish, Millie Bedard

**Associate Members Present:**

Georgia Papavasiliou, Janet Alexander, Lynn Bajdek absent

**Staff Present:**

Lisa Borchetta, Marty Schneier, Amanda Boralessa, Debbie Dupuis absent

**Guests:** Peter Eagan

The meeting was called as a “hybrid” meeting and was held in accordance with the revised state COVID guidelines in the Senior Center main hall and remote. With a quorum present, Yvette called the meeting to order at 2:00 pm.

**Minutes:** Minutes for October 13, 2021 unanimously approved.

**Appointments:**

Peter Eagan was unanimously voted as new associate after he gave us a brief summary of his background. He has lived in Holliston for 50 years, spent many years in financial management and 20 years in real estate. He has attended many Senior Center functions.

Peter Eagan was unanimously voted as the Council on Aging representative to the Holliston Long Range Planning Committee. Pete stated that his first meeting was November 10.

**Blair Square Committee:**

A letter written by Yvette to Kevin Conley of the Blair Square Committee was unanimously approved after a brief rehash and discussion of our concerns.

**Service Center Monthly Director’s Report:**

**Building Issues:** All defunct center keys were discarded and usable keys labelled and sorted. Duplicate keys were copied as needed. The handles faucets and paper towel dispenser have been installed in the restrooms. A shed has been ordered from Lowes to house the large tent, outdoor chairs and tables. The shed will be assembled by Lowes but will need to be painted at our cost through the facilities budget.

**Grants:**

**Metrowest Health Foundation**, Fall 2021. The Senior Center has applied for a \$25,000 grant to cover part of the survey of Holliston's 55+ community using the UMass Gerontological Institute. The remainder of the cost will be requested from ARPA.

**ARPA:** The Senior Center has revised and resubmitted the Home Repair Program for Low Income Seniors to Travis for presentation to the ARPA Steering Committee. The changes included:

Adjusting the cost of Project Administrator's compensation to reflect a three year instead of a five year grant. Total cost \$67,090.14

Lowering the cost of the administrative fund from a total of \$25,000 to \$12,000

Increasing the amount of money for repairs from \$25,000 /year to \$50,000/yr. Total cost \$150,000.

**Grant Extensions:**

Metropolitan Area Planning Council. The Taxi grant is extended to 3/31/2022 for services for medical, grocery, bank and any transportation needs. \$6,153.90.

Metro West Health Foundation Technology Grant extended to 7/1/22 supplying and training on tablets including workshops on email basics, cyber security social media, etc. \$10,764.80.

Bay Path Transportation Grant extended to 7/1/2022 for essential transportation serviced. \$3504.25.

**Donations:** Donations have been received in memory of Gerta Call, Edwina Kirby and Jon Sutherland as well as \$400 from Holliston Superette and their customers.

**Programs:**

Walking fitness and Tai Chi have resumed this month.

The Senior Center continues to be the host location for town events.

Maryanne Morse hosted a lovely Halloween luncheon.

**Covid 19:**

The mask mandate continues in the municipal buildings for the foreseeable future. Hand sanitizer and masks are available. Meals are currently limited to 60 people. A Covid booster clinic will be held December 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Other:**

The Senior Center was able to use Cares Acts funds to cover the cost of meal packing supplies for delivered through the end of October.

The Center has submitted a grant proposal to the Metrowest Health Foundation for the Fall 2021 Grant Cycle for \$25,000 to assist with the Holliston 55+ community survey.

**Staff:** Part time van drivers are still being sought.

**SSF Request:** Bingo request for November and December for \$80 unanimously approved.

**Other:**

Bob Malone suggested that the CoA compose a list of Grants both Private and State/Federal for reference.

**Staff comments:**

Amanda gave an update on the Thanksgiving lunch (for 60 people only). Those on the waiting list can get a meal for pick up. The Xmas Lunch will also have only 60 people. TBD whether there will be a drive by pick up for that meal.

Two Boy Scouts are looking to obtain the rank of Eagle Scout. They are asking if there are any projects that the Center might need. Contact Amanda if anyone has any ideas.

Gifts for Seniors who are alone on Xmas are being collected. Marty is handling this along with the fuel assistance for the whole town. There is expected to be an increase demand this winter because of the price of fuel. Housing insecurity and power outages are also concerns this winter.

Yvette gave a shout out to Kathy Loring for her work in managing the book store

Also a shout out to Sheila Joslin for her work in the Good as New Shop.

**Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 2:47 pm.

Respectfully Submitted

Kathleen Anguish

November 10, 2021

