

HOLLISTON COUNCIL ON AGING

Minutes of Special Meeting

August 8, 2022 – 2:00 PM

Members Present: Yvette Cain, Kathy Anguish, Carmen Chiango, Millie Bedard, and Georgia Papavasiliou

Members Absent: Lynne Bajdek, Bob Malone (No associate members present)

Staff Present: Lisa Borchetta

The remote meeting was called to order by Chair Yvette Cain at 2:03 PM in accordance with the Governor's July 16, 2022, Act related to an extension of COVID-19 measures adopted during the state of emergency suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law G.L. c. 30A ¶20. A roll call attendance was taken.

The Chair stated the purpose of the meeting was to approve Senior Center Director Lisa Borchetta's request for additional funding from Holliston ARPA monies. Yvette requested that Lisa speak to the status of the Senior Center Home Repair Program.

Lisa had prepared and read a written description of her request. The request spoke to the success of the initial launch of the Senior Center Home Repair Program supported by an initial grant of \$75,000 of ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding in April 2022. Lisa described the process by which the Habitat for Humanity coordinator reviews applicants and their requests. Next she explained how the present request of \$330,000 additional funds from ARPA is based upon the initial months of the program. Present funding allows for the completion of 4 to 6 jobs, with a \$15,000 average cost for each (total = \$75,000). Lisa is anticipating an average of 11 jobs per year possible for an additional two year period (2023-2024). This amounts to the request of \$330,000 (22 average jobs x \$15,000 average cost each).

Time was allowed for questions and comments from COA members for Lisa. Kathy Anguish asked if the applicants must be seniors. Lisa explained that seniors are our priority, but Habitat has other criteria as well. Carmen Chiango spoke to other ways the town has used ARPA funding and felt that the Senior Center Home Repair Program was very worthwhile.

A motion "to support the request of Senior Center Director Lisa Borchetta for \$330,000 from the ARPA Committee in order to fund a 24-month extension—Phase II— of the Holliston Senior Center Home Repair Program" was made by Carmen and seconded by Kathy. A roll call vote unanimously supported the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:16 PM.

The next meeting of the Council on Aging is Wednesday, September 14, 2022, at 2:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Yvette Cain, Chair

Holliston Council on Aging

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