

Minutes of COA Board Meeting December 14, 2021

Board Members Present: Stephanie Becker-Stone, Jennifer Chisholm, Kathy Dalton, Pearl Hines, Mary DeCoursey, Lily Owyang, Eva Paddock and Beverly Sealey

Absent: James Bennett (name was on screen, but no confirmation via video nor audio); Lois Carra

Staff Present: Lisa Castagna, Vincent McCarthy, and Susan Pacheco

Call to Order – President Owyang called meeting to order at 9:34 a.m.

Review/Acceptance of minutes: Minutes approved with noted amendments made by Jennifer Chisholm and seconded by Eva Paddock.

Executive Director – Susan Pacheco

- EOEI Formula Grant yet to be posted. Annual survey has been posted. Completion of survey is due January 31st.
- COA and Somerville Cambridge Elder Services, assisted Cambridge Public Health Department schedule the COVID Boosters to homebound residents.
- The Cambridge COA Friends are officially dissolved. Final distribution of funds: \$42,257.09. Has been deposited into the COA Donations budget line on 12/2/21.
- ED will be joining Police, Middlesex DA Ryan, and Consumers' Council on 1/13/22 for a Scam Presentation at LBG Apartments. More dates will be scheduled for community outreach on this topic. Will be determined by COVID data.
- As reported, Alicia Johnson has been promoted to the position of Cambridge Senior Center Director effective 12/6/21.

COA Activities Team – Alicia Johnson (Not present, but provided report to be presented by ED)

- The Billiards Group will celebrate the conclusion of their tournament season with a luncheon on Tuesday December 14, 2021. Sponsored by the Cambridge COA. The food of choice was subs from ABC Pizza.
- The monthly Book Group, led by Cambridge Librarian Janet Borron, has returned to a group read format. Janet has provided us with the list of book club selections through July 2022. The Book Group continues to be offered successfully as a hybrid program.
- The Healthy Aging Cycling Series, a collaboration between the Cambridge Community Development Department and the Cambridge Council on Aging, will be featured in the Getting Around Cambridge Magazine. We are in the very early stages of drafting ideas and will have more information by the January 2022 Board Meeting. Getting Around Cambridge Magazine is a Community Development Department publication.
- Café 806 continues its success and now has expanded offerings. Which include, chili, sandwiches, and soups.
- The Computer Lab has expanded its hours and is now open Monday thru Friday, with a limited schedule.

Client Services – Vincent McCarthy

- Medicare Open Enrollment ended on December 7th. SHINE has been extremely busy during this time. During the month of November, the COA had a total of 62 SHINE appointments. Many thanks for our Information Referral Specialist & SHINE Counselor Maryellen McEleney, to our SHINE Volunteer, Jim Dunn, and to SHINE Counselor Lisa Castagna for all their great work!
- Men's Group continues to meet on the Third Tuesday of each month at 10am. This month the Men's Group will be putting together gift bags for the homeless and we will be donating them to the Cambridge Warming Center. Items in the gift bag will include socks, Chapstick, moisturizer and a face mask.

- Example of case situations in Client Services was presented. Board was appreciative of hearing the type of scenarios that staff encounter.

Old Business: Board Meeting 11/09/21 David Fichter Mural North Cambridge Senior Center

Board members have inquired and asked the following questions that will need to be followed up with the Arts Council.

1. Since this is an indoor mural, can an acrylic overlay be placed on the mural to protect it from future damage?
2. Is the restoration work guaranteed once the mural is restored?

Answers from Craig Uram Director of Art Conservation-Cambridge Arts Council

- Teresa Carmichael will do the restoration work with an estimated start of Spring 2022
- Craig will inquire further about the use of acrylic to protect the mural, but shared insight that large sheets of acrylic is expensive, not very attractive, and will make it hard to see the mural through the glare.
- There is antiglare acrylic, but at the size needed, the cost could be phenomenal.
- Craig will inquire with Teresa about acrylic and other suggestions she may have. An overall varnish would add some protection from spills and dirt.
- Conservation treatments are usually guaranteed for the treatment, but not for additional damage.

New Business

Mary DeCoursey announced the following:

Mount Auburn Hospital is currently conducting a Community Health Needs Assessment and wants to hear from you.

Please join us for a Community Listening Session. It is important to hear from as many people as possible with diverse experiences and backgrounds. Mount Auburn Hospital will be sharing back the key themes that have been identified during the community engagement process. Share your perspective and help prioritize community needs and discuss potential solutions.

Register today for one of the two sessions offered:

Thursday January 20, 12 pm - 1:30pm

<https://jsi.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAvce-hrTsrG9MTkZYCbN2EgDIsCMMDjSjr>

Tuesday January 25, 6pm - 7:30pm

<https://jsi.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYod-qhrT4iEt1VJUGUIYkbc1P1pchOtYC4>

After registering you will receive a confirmation email about joining the meeting.

All attendees will be entered to win a \$100 Visa Gift Card.

For more information or for flyers in multiple languages please contact Mary DeCoursey at

mdecourc@mah.harvard.edu

617-499-5625

Kathy Dalton and Eva Paddock motioned to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:35 a.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, January 11, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Susan Pacheco.

