

Northampton Council on Aging Meeting

Thursday, February 13, 2025 5:00 pm

In Person & Virtual:

Online Zoom Teleconference Meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81829426100?pwd=VGEEyaUxLRDNBSW1yVU4wVDVINHhUZz09>

Meeting ID: 818 2942 6100 Passcode: 039174

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+19294362866,,81829426100#,,,,*039174# US (New York)

COA Minutes

Call to Order: Cynthia Langley called the meeting to order @ 5:05 pm

Present: Kim Park, Cynthia Langley, Robert Dionne, Mark Bird, Jeanne Henry Hoose, Michael Ford, Adrienne Andrews, Anne "Val" Romano, Karen Lynds

Absent: all present

Review & approval of January minutes: A motion was made to approve by Bob Dionne and 2nd by Michael Ford. Approved by all members

Report from the Northampton Police Department - Chief John Cartledge

- Discussion of new recruits and training
- Jeff Staples is Community Liaison
- Discussion of Wellness Checks including when and how they occur
- Discussion of Mental Health Co-Responders and collaboration with the Division of Community Care
- A review of current scams including IRS and toll texts

Director's Report:

- For January 2025, there were 59 new members with 401 dine in and curbside meals served
- Average daily attendance in January was 184
- The Northampton Nostalgia group was well attended and the next date is Feb 26th
- Fuel Assistance appointments are available through May. Call the Senior Center to schedule an appointment
- Artist of the Month: Colleen Ahern in Hallway through March and Rachel Jenkins in Bistro and Coffee Shop through February. Arts Night Out Dates include March 14th, May 9th, July 11th. Council members invited to attend and assist.
- The 2nd Annual Volunteer Fair in collaboration with RSVP is scheduled for April 10th
- The Health and Wellness Fair will occur in May. More information to follow.
- Know it before you need it event sponsored by Veterans Services will occur on February 26th at 4:00 pm
- Songwriting with Denny Caraher starts on March 5th and is 8 sessions

Other Agencies and Departments - schedule to attend meetings

- Discussed agencies/departments and schedule

Request for letter of support for a grant to fund an audio-visual system for an upcoming outdoor stage at Forbes Library

- Cynthia Langley recused herself from the discussion and voting due to being a member of the AARP Mass committee that reviews the grant applications.
- Bob Dionne led the discussion regarding this request
- Jeanne Henry Hoose made a motion to write a letter in support of the grant. Motion was seconded by Michael Ford. The vote was 7 in favor and 1 abstention. Motion approved,

Highland Valley Elder Services Report

- Bob provided an update including the status of grants

Next Meeting: Thursday, February 13, 2025 at 5:00 pm

Adjournment: Motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Michael Ford and seconded by Jeanne Henry Hoose

Meeting adjourned @ 5:42 pm