

Northampton Council on Aging Meeting
Thursday, September 11, 2025
5:00 PM

This meeting was conducted in person at the Northampton Senior Center,
67 Conz Street, Northampton MA

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order: Cynthia Langley called the meeting to order

Present: Cynthia Langley, Robert Dionne, Mark Bird, Michael Ford,
Adrienne Andrews, Anne "Val" Romano, Karen Lynds

Absent: Jeanne Henry Hoose

Public Comment: No members of the public were present

Review and Approval of August Minutes: A motion was made to
approve by Robert Dionne, seconded by Michael Ford. Motion approved by
all members

Director's Report

- Changes in Hours of Operation: polling location on Tues, Sept 16th
for Preliminary Election. Several cancelled programs on Monday and
Wednesday for set up and break down, all programs cancelled on
Tuesday
- Tai Chi will be held at Forbes Library - Monday September 15th
- Participation statistics and events reviewed
- Artist of the Month: The Monday Art & Craft Buffet Participants in the
Gallery Hall, Paul Bloomfield in the Bistro
- Needles and Hooks - the group made scarves for the Rays of Hope
walk in Springfield
- Ice Cream Social - Sept 24th
- Jigsaw Puzzle Competition - Oct 10

- Vaccine Clinic with DHHS - Oct 20th
- DoozyDo Parade - September 20th at 11:00
- Website review - council members were invited to review the website and offer feedback and suggestion on content, layout and ease of use

Discussion about Reframing Aging - Communication Best Practices

- Members reviewed the following two documents prior to the meeting: Communication Best Practices: Reframing Aging Initiative Guide to Telling More Complete Story of Aging and the Quick Start Guide - Starting with Why?
- Communication best practices were discussed including the words we use and framing
- Discussed the perception of aging including negative stereotypes and inaccurate assumptions. A more positive view was discussed
- Discussed opportunities for education

Discussion about the role of COA Members

- Discussion tabled until October Meeting

Highland Valley Elder Services Board Update

- No update at this time

Next Meeting: The next meeting is November 13, 2025 at 5:00 pm

Adjournment

Motion was made by Anne “Val” Romano and seconded by Robert Dionne
Meeting adjourned at 5:49 pm