

## COMMISSION ON ELDER AFFAIRS

### Minutes of April 25, 2016

MEMBERS PRESENT: Theresa Eckstrom, Chair; Sandra Bisson; Robin Bahr Casey; Tom Cullinane; Christopher Evans; Matthew Fonseca; Elizabeth Nguyen; Gail Schuyler

MEMBERS ABSENT/EXCUSED: Meg Coffin; Ursula Hanus; Paul Johnson; Richard Pinkes; Elaine Wrubel

STAFF AND GUESTS PRESENT: Amy Vogel Waters; Patty Hainsworth; Linda Wincek Moore; Lauren St. Pierre, intern; Ron Motta, Friends of Worcester Senior Center; Robert Dwyer, Central Mass Agency on Aging; Louis Swan, Elder Services

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. Robin Bahr Casey was welcomed back as a new Commission member serving another term.

Robert Dwyer, Central Mass Agency on Aging (CMAA) and Louis Swan, Elder Services (ESWA) were introduced and spoke about their respective agencies and how they work with the City of Worcester Elder Affairs. CMAA is our regional Area Agency on Aging (AAA) and is funded by the federal Older Americans Act which has recently been re-authorized. The funding has not grown in many years. CMAA allocates funds to programs such as our osteoporosis prevention project, and they also provide support for caregivers and much information via their website. ESWA's budget has grown mainly with state and federal contracts. They are the regional Aging Service Access Point (ASAP) and provide a broad range of services to help reduce nursing home admissions and hospital re-admissions. Eligible clients include younger disabled individuals. Bob and Lou also provided information in writing and answered member's questions.

The Commission minutes of Feb 22 and March 28, 2016 were approved as distributed. m/s/a  
The Senior Center Reports to the Commission of March 8 and April 12, 2016 were approved as distributed. m/s/a

Amy reviewed highlights of the goals and objectives report. Patty Hainsworth received the Thomas Green Award and will be receiving a key to the city. The Senior Center will be an early voting site for 4 days before the election.

Patty reported on programs and services. Linda reported on upcoming Evidence based programs and other advocacy items.

The next scheduled meeting will be held on May 23, 2016. The meeting adjourned.