

Senior Center Committee-Commission on Elder Affairs
Hosted by Elder Affairs Commission

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Tuesday, Mar 9, 2021 12:00 pm | 1 hour | (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada)
Meeting number: 160 803 4978
Password: ft7itu2QPW8

Join by video system
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Meeting Notice and Agenda
Senior Center Committee of the Commission on Elder Affairs

The next meeting of the Senior Center Committee will be held on **Tuesday March 9, 2021 at 12:00 p.m.** via Webex. If you cannot attend, please respond to this e-mail or call Jennifer Linch at 508-799-1232 x48009. Thank you.

- I. Senior Center Committee Chair
 - a. Call to Order / Approval of February 9, 2021 minutes
 - b. Confirm date and time of next meeting

- II. Elder Affairs Staff Reports and Recommendations
 - A. Finances
 - 1. Public and Private Funding
 - 2. Program Allocations
 - 3. Leases
 - 4. Development

 - B. Operations
 - 1. Staffing
 - 2. Facility and Grounds
 - 3. Programs
 - 4. Reopening

- III. Public Comment (up to 2 minutes each)
- IV. Adjournment

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Senior Center Committee 2/9/21 minutes

Present: Robin Bahr Casey-Chair, Richard Shea, Caroline Sullivan, Chizoma Nosike, Patty Hainsworth, Amy Waters

Robin called the meeting to order at 12:05 via webex. The minutes of 1/12/21 were approved (m/s/a). The next meeting was confirmed for March 9th at noon.

Amy reviewed the status of the FY'22 budget which may be reduced up to 25% by the state and 3 % by the city. She reviewed the proposed budget scenarios to be submitted to the budget office this week along with a strategic plan which directly relates to the budget. In light of this, the following motions were made and approved:

- *The Elder Affairs' strategic plan (attached) is recommended to be submitted for approval as part of the budget request. (m/s/a).*
- *The proposed Administrative Assistant 6-Technical Program Support, grade 33, is recommended to be submitted for approval with the understanding that the step at which a candidate is hired will be contingent upon their level of qualifications. (m/s/a)*
- *The new Fitness Center is recommended to be funded fully, which requires an increase of \$154,050 for this line item. (m/s/a)*

Amy also reported on the following: As approved last month, \$5000 was awarded to support the Southeast Asian Center's delivery of food/meals; funds are being held to supplement \$36,000 Community Development Block Grant if needed for the kitchen appliance replacement project which will be re-bid; QCC license for kitchen/diner has been finalized but all other leases/licenses are still being worked on.

Patty reported on the following: The fitness renovation is currently at the stage of removal of coal from the old floor; the ionization air purifier system is partially installed; the temporary tenant, the YWCA, has moved out; Remote programs continue with exercise remaining very popular, February highlight is heart health talk; zoominars taking place (e.g. photography, mahjong), an array of St. Patrick's Day programs coming in March; program partners include the District Attorney, the Sheriff, Worcester Art Museum, the Library and more, working to expand cultural meals with QCC, & Doherty High students made 200 valentines we're sending to seniors.

Chizoma agreed to share information at a Commission meeting regarding affordable housing. There was also discussion about the process for vaccinating seniors to prevent COVID 19.

The meeting adjourned at 12:55 pm (m/s/a)

Division of Elder Affairs Strategic Plan FY'2022 & onward...

Mission: To enhance the well-being of Worcester's senior population by optimizing services on behalf of mature adults and their families via the Worcester Senior Center which promotes health, social connection, fitness, education and independence.

Vision Statement: To support diverse seniors to maintain and improve their self-determined quality of life as they grow older by providing information, advocacy, programs and activities which address their needs and interests.

Strategic Goal: To recover from the impact of the pandemic which caused the temporary closure of the Senior Center facility and a shift to remote services and relationships with the city's seniors.

Strategic Objectives:

1. Facilitate the return of seniors to participation at the Senior Center safely.
2. Evaluate lessons learned from the pandemic and incorporate positive findings into Senior Center operations.
3. Implement new initiatives to enhance the accomplishment of our mission.

Strategic Initiatives:

1. Refine re-opening plans to reflect the most up to date public health practices.
2. Assess the level at which quality remote programming can be maintained to offer a senior center "without walls" while operating the physical hub as re-opened.
3. Enhance fitness programming utilizing the new outdoor equipment already installed, as well as the Fitness Center under construction inside the Senior Center.

Measurements:

1. Re-opening of the Senior Center is implemented with no resulting spread of the virus.
2. The number of programs & services offered remotely or as a hybrid of in- person and remote delivery.
3. Fitness professionals retained providing a certain number of program hours utilizing the new equipment and space.