

COUNCIL ON AGING BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Meeting Minutes

Date: Friday August 4, 2023

Present: Pina Mingace, Miriam Bremer, Edna Murray, Neeraj Wadhera,

Council on Aging Staff Present: Ashley Speliotis, Connie Lorenti

Location: This meeting was held in person at the Holland Street Senior Center, located at 167 Holland Street, Somerville, MA 02144. These meetings are open to the public and all are welcome.

The Council's primary responsibility is to advise the Council on Aging in the promotion and implementation of programs and services to address the needs of the community's elder population.

1. Call to order: 11:06am
2. Approval of July Minutes
 - a. Minutes approved by Miriam Bremer, seconded by Neeraj Wadhera.

3. New Business

The Mayor's Senior Picnic. Volunteer roles assigned—Edna will be at the registration table, Miriam, Neeraj and Daisy will assist with food handout, Pina will help at the COA table.

- Members received a BOD badge to be worn at the picnic.
- Spoke about group picture and future outreach from the Board of Directors. Neeraj made the suggestion to have open hours with the BOD members.

Review of Senior Community Survey—2nd Draft

- Reviewed second draft of survey developed by UMass. Board members discussed open ended questions: members would like space for participants to provide an answer but also would like to provide check off selections.
- Members would like to add an additional question: "Local policy makers provide me with the opportunity to voice my opinions".
- Members would like all scaled questions to be formatted the same. For example, some questions list "not preferred" or "bad" response listed first, but for other questions, "strongly agree" or the "good" answer is first.

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- All feedback sent to UMass.

Adjourn: Meeting adjourned at 12:10pm

4. Next Meeting: September 1, 2023 at 11:00am