

REVIEWED

By City Clerk at 9:56 am, Jan 12, 2026

**Council on Aging Board Meeting
Milano Center
December 4, 2025**

Board Members in Attendance: Ellen Cobau, Philip Hermann, Maura Sullivan, and Kristin Thorp

Members Absent: David Kourtz, Nancy Messina

Other Attendees: Erica Drummond, COA Executive Director, Michael (Mike) Tarmey

Meeting called to order at 8:20 am by Kristin Thorp

Minutes of Board Meeting (in packet) October 16, 2025 approved

Council on Aging

- **Grant Activity**

- **Age-Friendly/Dementia-Friendly Grant**

Erica reports mass mailing of resource guide and map is underway. Volunteers are needed to assist with the effort. Go Beebe Estate during M-F during Milano Center hours to assist.

- **Mass Council on Grant (MCOA)**

Grant-funded renovations to Milano Center's first floor bathroom will take place the first week of Jan 2026. Center will be closed during the renovations

- **Passage of City of Melrose Over-ride**

- Erica anticipates re-instatement of monies (\$44,000) that were stricken from the budget.

- **UMASS Boston Needs Assessment**

- Board reviewed COA action items (in packet) that were completed and others to address in the new year.

- **Melrose Senior Resource Fair**

- Tuesday October 28th 10am-1pm in Memorial Hall

Attendance (57) was less than last year's attendance (76). COA executive director believes the attendance drop was due to the fact that flu clinic was held the week before the resource fair instead of in conjunction with the resource fair.

Other Milano Center Activities

- **Holiday Celebration**

- scheduled for Tuesday December 16 , 11:00 AM in Memorial Hall

Mystic Valley Elder Services (MVES) sponsored event (\$1000 donation). Entertainment by Milano Center's Tap Class, Singing Group and Pomtastics.

- **Men's Breakfast Group**

- First Breakfast was well received with 16 in attendance. COA executive director hopes to make this a monthly offering

Friends of the Milano Center

- Hamilton Hall Lecture Series.
For the third straight year, the Friends of the Milano center are sponsoring the recorded presentations of The Hamilton Hall Lecture Series. This series consist of eight lectures on global affairs. The recordings will be played on eight consecutive Saturdays at 11am, beginning on February 7 and ending on March 28. Tickets for the entire series will cost \$80 or attendees can select 4 lectures for \$50.
- Breakfast with COA Board of Directors.
The Friends Board of Directors and The COA Board of Directors will meet for breakfast following next month's (TH Jan 15th) COA Board Meeting

COA Board of Directors

- Board continues with a vacant Vice-President seat
 - This will be discussed at next meeting.
- Michael (Mike) Tarmey nomination to board.
 - Michael (Mike) Tarmey introduced to the BOD. Await Mike's nomination approval by Melrose City Council

Next meeting Thursday January 15, 2026; Milano Center (2nd Floor Conference Room).

Meeting adjourned at 9:02am

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen Cobau, Clerk