

**Council on Aging Board Meeting  
Milano Center  
April 16, 2026**

**Board Members in Attendance:** Chair Dave Kourtz, Vice-Chair Kristin Thorp, Ellen Cobau, Nancy Messina (Virtual), Maura Sullivan, and Mike Tarmey

**Members Absent:** Phil Hermann

**Other Attendees:** Erica Drummond, COA Executive Director

Meeting called to order at 8:05 am by Chair Dave Kourtz

**Public Comment:** No comments

Minutes of Board Meeting (in packet) February 19, 2026 approved

**Council on Aging**

**Financial Activity**

- **2027 Budget**

- Erica Drummond is scheduled to present budget to City Council on May 18 at 7pm

**Grant Activity**

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

- Await State and AARP designation of Melrose as an Age-Friendly/Dementia-Friendly community
- AARP maintains a registry of communities that have received this designation

- **State Earmark Grants**

- Driveway Lighting: 4 Victorian Style lampposts will be installed
- Accessible Vehicle: Director Erica Drummond is seeking a 10-12 passenger van; pre-owned 2024/2025; budgeted \$150,000.

**Milano Center Housekeeping**

- **Parking during construction**

- Parking congestion mitigation strategies were enacted April 1.
- Erica is working with DPW, Office of Planning and Development and Parking Clerk.
- A member feed-back session is scheduled for Friday April 24 at 11am

- **Bathroom renovations**

- Bathroom renovations are complete.

- **Digital Sign Board**

- Sign board will be located in Milano center lobby
- City of Melrose IT Dept will assist with installation

## **COA Board Activities**

### **Strategic Planning**

- **UMass Boston Needs Assessment**
- Erica reconciled (in meeting packet) outstanding action items
- Board members were assigned action items

### **Summer Events**

- **Board Sponsored Staff Appreciation Summer Barbeque**
- Erica will identify a June date to host BBQ.

## **Friends of Milano Center**

### **Summer Events**

- **Friends Sponsored Volunteer Appreciation Day**
- Milano Center Volunteers will be invited
- Scheduled for June 2, 2026 at 3pm.
- "Giving Tree" donors will also be invited.

### **Milano Center Technology**

- **System Upgrades**
- Friends have agreed to fund upgrades to support Hamilton Hall Series

The next board meeting will be on Thursday May 21 at 8am; Milano Center (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room).

The following board meeting will be on September 17. During the summer, board members will be available on an as-needed basis.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen Cobau, Clerk