

**Melrose Council on Aging
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes May 21, 2026**

Attendees: D. Kourtz, E. Drummond, P. Herman, K. Thorpe, M. Sullivan , N. Messina

Absent: E. Cobau, **M.????**

1. Meeting was called to order by the Chair at 8:09
2. Request for public comment: No one presented any
3. Minutes Approval: was suggested, seconded, and passed without opposition
4. Executive Director Report:
 - **Memory Cafe** is progressing well. Participants are appreciative and supportive
 - **Milano Modernization:** Lobby TV posting board is on order. Will be installed by city IT when it arrives.
 - **MassDOT Accessible Vehicle:** It has arrived and is in the city hall parking lot awaiting proper documentation and training.
 - **MassDOT Operations:** Reporting is all updated and Diane has ben trained to prepare and submit monthly.
 - **State earmark: Accessible Vehicle:** Vehicle chosen; training is being scheduled, along with other state required documentation
 - **City Scheduled open meeting on COA schedule Changes:** Attendees expressed support for staff in accomplishing the time changes with a minimum of disruption
 - **'Friends of'** update: All is well, and we are encouraged to attend the June 2 appreciation event
5. **Summer staff appreciation event:** Created to “Thank our Staff” for what they do to make the Milano Center such a positive experience for our members. **Scheduled for June 18th, 4:00.** All members of the BOD are encouraged to attend as well as donate \$ (Erica collects) to help cover costs.
6. **Strategic Planning:**

Retirement Panel and Aging in place panel are developing idea. E. Thorpe reported significant support expressed by members of the Melrose Rotary and Stephanie (Rotary Director) strongly supports as well.
7. **New Business:** Strong board support for:
 - Working with melrose FYA and van users to work jointly for a POSITIVE 'wrap' for the vans.
 - Strong support for Phil's idea to have an annual display of 'art by seniors' with either another COA, or the BEEBE arts group.
 - Encourage members to find candidates for our next board open seat (January 2027).
8. **Next meeting** SEPTEMBER 17th @ 8:00.

Meeting ended: 8:39

Submitted: May 21 by D. Kourtz

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