

RECEIVED

By City Clerks Office at 3:19 pm, Aug 14, 2025

Council on Aging Board Meeting
Milano Center
May 16, 2024

Attendees

Board Members in Attendance

Margaret Ivins, Maura Sullivan, Philip Hermann, Nancy Messina, Ellen Cobau

Absent

Kristin Thorp, David Kourtz

Other Attendees

Erica Brown, COA Executive Director

Called to order at 8:13 by Vice Chair Margaret Ivins
Minutes of Board Meeting April 18, 2024 (in meeting packet) approved

Executive Director's Report

Milano Center:

Pavilion Grand Opening 6/4 @ 1pm

Interviews underway to fill recently vacated Milano Center Assistant position. Position is for 8hr/week.

Council on Aging

FY 25 Budget Report (summary sheet in meeting packet)

Erica Brown is scheduled to present budget to City Council on 6/10 for final approval

Property Tax Work-Off Program has been increased from \$1000/year to \$2000/year.

Friends of Milano Center

Erica Brown, COA Executive Director met with Friends of Milano Center President Joan Cassidy to request creation of a "Floating Account" to borrow from for Milano Center activity purchases. This account will be set up to borrow up to \$3000/month for items such things as advance purchase of theatre tickets.

Old Business:

Summer Meetings have been scheduled for Wednesday July 17 and Wednesday August 21.

New Business:

UMB Needs Assessment. Members summarized the result of breakout group brainstorming sessions. Common points included:

- Identifying community resources/partners (i.e. Friends of the Fells, YMCA, MBTA Mobility Center)
- Strategies for disseminating COA information.
- Strategies to engage senior men (Men's Social Club, Chair volleyball, Bocce)
- Working toward Melrose designation as "Age-Friendly/Dementia-Friendly" community
- Potential Fund Raising activities (e.g. Pickleball tournament).

Margaret Ivins will identify action items that COA should address and action items that the City of Melrose should address.

Next meeting will be held Milano Center (2nd floor conference room) on Thursday June 20, 2024 at 8am

Meeting adjourned at 9:50am

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen Cobau, Clerk