

RECEIVED

By City Clerks Office at 3:26 pm, Aug 14, 2025

**Council on Aging Board Meeting
Milano Center
October 17, 2024**

Board Members in Attendance: David Kourtz, Kristin Thorp, Maura Sullivan, Nancy Messina, Ellen Cobau, Philip Hermann, Margaret Ivins (via zoom)

Other Attendees: Erica Brown, COA Executive Director

Meeting called to order at 8:04 am by Chair David Kourtz
Minutes of Board Meeting September 19, 2024 (in meeting packet) approved

Milano Center

Collaborative Events/Trips

- LGBTQ Disco Dance (invitations to three neighboring COAs)
- Holiday Pops at Symphony Hall (invite Wakefield/Stoneham/Medford)

Other COA Activities/Events

- Resource Fair scheduled for Tuesday October 29
- Flu shots will be available
- “Pom Dancers” demonstrating cardio/strengthening/dance routines
- New Years Eve Day aboard “The Odyssey”

Council on Aging

Grant Updates

- Age-Friendly/Dementia-Friendly Grant

Health and Human Services (HHS) Summer Interns have identified public benches and bathrooms

- \$50,000 grant earmarked to purchase new COA van

Erica is consulting with DPW; Erica has been conferring with surrounding area COAs to identify desirable features for Melrose COA van.

UMASS Boston Presentation

- October 9th UMASS Survey Group TEAM Lead presentation was followed by Erica Brown, COA Executive Director’s response
- MMTV filmed the presentation and posted it to COA website

Survey Action Items Progress

- “Looking Ahead” Newsletter - Has been redesigned to be more user friendly
- Milano Man Cave – Erica and Jim are promoting and developing this group.
- Walking groups – COA is strengthening collaboration with Friends of the Fells.
- Social Media – Will investigate using Melrose Community FaceBook to promote COA events.

Friends of the Milano Center

Cabinets funded by Friends of Milano Center have been installed in Tierney Hall.

Next meeting Thursday, November 21, 2024 @8am Milano Center (2nd Floor Conference Room)

Meeting adjourned at 8:55

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen Cobau, Clerk