

RECEIVED

By City Clerks Office at 3:29 pm, Aug 14, 2025

**Council on Aging Board Meeting
Milano Center
December 19, 2024**

Board Members in Attendance: David Kourtz (Chair), Margaret Ivins (Vice-Chair), Ellen Cobau, Philip Hermann, Nancy Messina, Maura Sullivan, and Kristin Thorp.

Members Absent: None

Other Attendees: Erica Brown, COA Executive Director

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

Minutes of Board Meeting November 21, 2024 (in meeting packet) approved

Milano Center

Past Collaborative Events/Trips

- December 12: Holiday Pops at Symphony Hall Melrose/Wakefield/Reading 31 attendees

Future Collaboration Events

- December 31: New Years Eve Day aboard "The Odyssey"

Other COA Activities/Events

- December 10: Holiday Party Memorial Hall 106 attendees; gift of Bombas socks well-received
- January Fitness Push: Considering "Bring a Friend" credit
- January 7th Vegas Night. Erica is recruiting people to run the games.
- January 8th Elvis Live. This is a celebration of Elvis's 100th birthday.
- January 28th 2:30-4 Open House
- Hamilton Hall Lecture Series: Speakers will be announced soon; David Kourtz will investigate offering series on weekday evening instead of Saturday.

Council on Aging

Grant Updates

- Age-Friendly/Dementia-Friendly Grant: Kara Showers, Health Department & Rachael Cordella, LCSW Social Service Coordinator will do the trainings. Meeting with Chamber of Commerce to identify which establishments will participate. Mayor's Office will send representatives.
- \$50,000 grant earmarked to purchase new COA van. Erica continues to investigate pre-owned options

Safety Upgrades/Improvements: Notable improvement of participants using the sidewalks near the center since curb cuts placed.

Survey Action Items Progress

In order to increase outreach, the following activities have been scheduled:

- January Milano Center Open House (1/28).
- Men's Group will meet in January to brainstorm. Effort spearheaded by Phillip Herman.

Increase Programming by collaborating with other organization:

- December 31st New Years Celebration aboard "The Odyssey" is open to neighboring COAs

Next meeting Thursday, January 16, 2025 @8am Milano Center (2nd Floor Conference Room)

Meeting adjourned at 9:00

Minutes respectfully submitted by Ellen Cobau, Clerk