



Arlington Council on Aging

Minutes

Date: Thursday October 17, 2024 Time: 6:00 pm

Location: This meeting was conducted in a hybrid format.

Present: Marge Vanderhill, Margaret Iwobi, Sherry Graham, Elaine McNulty, Marie Rapoza, Jim Munsey, Karen Nichols, Melissa McInerney, Darcy Carr, Lee Orlandi, Kristine Shah

The Council's primary responsibilities are to design, promote, and implement programs and services to address the needs of the community's elder population, and to coordinate existing services in the community.

1. Call to Order by board chair, Sherry Graham, 6:01 pm
2. Minutes of the September 2024: *Jim Munsey motioned for approval, Melissa McInerney 2nd, unanimously approved*
3. Citizen's Open Forum: *Lee Orlandi spoke about being a newer person in town and how there can be a consolidated source for new people to learn about all of the opportunities for socialization, programs and services across town He acknowledged YourArlington.com as a source but is interested in a printed list or directory. He pulled together a list and distributed it as a starting point for the board to consider.*
4. Report: Executive Director *See below for full report*
5. Report: Minuteman Senior Services: *Marge Vanderhill provided MMSS update, passed out MMSS branded note pads and updated brochures to all members, asked board members to complete survey, engagement numbers impact their state budget dollars.*
6. Old Business: *Jim Munsey asked if there had been progress made on the "Senior Center" sign that is at the corner of Mass Ave & Academy Street. Kristine answered that she is working with the DPW*
7. New Business
8. Other Community Announcements
9. Adjourn - *Next meeting: November 21, 2024: Melissa McInerney motioned to adjourn, Elaine McNulty seconded, unanimously approved to adjourn.*

Executive Director's Report: Kristine Shah

- I. Board Updates
 - a. Thank you, Sherry, for agreeing to Chair!
 - b. One open board seat remains
 - c. Board orientation to immediately follow this meeting, all current members/associate members are welcome

- II. Upcoming Programs & Services
 - a. LGBTQ+ History Month Panel Event; SAGE Table November 14
 - b. Epic Elders Program through Huntington Theater
 - c. Old Men of Menotomy Talk November 8
 - d. SHINE/Medicare Open Enrollment Talk November 13
 - e. Shake Your Soul Writing & Discussion Group
 - f. Holiday Scams Awareness Event December 4
 - g. Winter Ball December 5
 - h. COA Recipe Book in time for the Holiday Season

- III. Property Tax Relief Programs
 - a. 20 Tax Work Off Volunteers Completed hours and will be receiving their abatements in the next tax bill cycle
 - b. Elderly & Disabled Tax Relief Applications are available and are due by January 31, 2025. The committee will meet in early March regarding decisions and relief will be on Q4 tax bills

- IV. Thanksgiving 2024
 - a. Social Workers, Arlington EATS and Minuteman Case Managers are putting together list of recipients, expecting 125 deliveries this year
 - b. Michelle Tse has begun recruiting volunteers to deliver
 - c. If you are interested in participating, please let me now

- V. Other
 - a. Open Office Assistant Position

b. Thank you to everyone who helped on our very rainy Town Day!