

**Billerica Council on Aging
25 Concord Road, Billerica MA
Board Meeting Minutes**

February 12, 2024, 5:30 pm

Present: Richard Carroll, Phil Doiron, Gerald Johnson, Mary Jones, Joseph Marino, Marguerite Massey, Bill Neeb, John Pellegrino, Mary Riley.

Absent: Jean Patel Bushnell, Kim Conway, Barbara Flaherty, and Mike Riley.

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 PM by Chair Mary Riley, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silence for the sick and departed.

The minutes of the January 10, 2024, meeting accepted as written. M/ Phil Doiron. S/ John Pellegrino Motion passed.

In the absence of COA Director Jean Bushnell the Director's update was tabled until the March Board meeting.

The members of the Board went into old business further clarifying what topics Board members are allowed to discuss at a Billerica Select Board meeting. It was explained that presenting COA programs and events that are offered to all or our senior residents are well within the boundaries of what a Board member is allowed to address in public. The Board also agrees that any subject a member is planning to discuss be presented to the Full Board beforehand.

The thought process is to build momentum for a new COA facility. With COA Board approval, items that can be presented on the Select Board meeting are.

- o The AARP Income Tax Program
- o Black Tie Bingo
- o Food Insecurity – Panera Bread / Lahey Produce

Points of interest for the AARP program particularly are:

- o Lack of adequate space for private conversation between Taxpayer and preparer.
- o Inadequate space for tax preparers limiting growth of the program within the current hours of operation. While 350 patrons served is an impressive number, there is ongoing demand for appointments.

Next Meeting Monday, March 13, 2024 at 5:30 pm

Motion to Adjourn Phil Doiron / S Bill Neeb Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Respectfully Submitted



William Neeb, Recording Secretary

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