

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

March 11, 2026, 5:30 pm

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Present:, Phil Doiron, Mary Jones, Marguerite Massey, Bill Neeb, Mary Riley, Hemali Shah.

Absent: Dan Burns, John Burrows, Richard Carroll, Barbara Flaherty, Joseph Marino, John Pellegrino, Mike Rosa

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

Acceptance of the minutes of the February 11, 2022, meeting.

M/ Mary Riley S/ Marguerite Massey. With all in favor the Motion passed.

Director's Notes

Program and Financial Updates

Financial Performance: Program registration for March took place during the week of February 23rd. We had 344 complete transactions, generating a revenue of \$1,958 with \$331 used from wallet.

Program Highlights:

- Personal training spots are all filled for the month of March
- We have completed two meal box initiative days with about 40 patrons participating.
- Chinese New Year tea tasting was a hit and the program was led by Rylee
- Super Bowl Party with the Boys and Girls Club was a great hit. We are hoping to do a bi-monthly event with them to increase our intergenerational programming.

Miscellaneous:

- On March 14th at 10am I will be presenting in front of the finance committee the FY 27 budget.
- Gift certificates are now available for purchase
- I also wanted to share a review the COA received on Facebook this past weekend from a patron
- The part time administrative position is finally filled

February 28 at 8:04 AM · 🌐

It's the Roving Reporter back at it with in outsiders view of the CoA.

Backstory - my mother recently moved in with me, and she was signed up at the CoA on the 18th. I recently wrote a post about my initial encounter with the staff - and I would like to report that they haven't disappointed, they are wonderful.

Now, for the outsiders view on the things I've seen. I'm too young to be a member but lucky enough to be Mom's companion.

Thursday (2/19)

Mom's birthday and first time doing an event - Bingo. She won the 50/50 and would have won the cover-all if she didn't miss a number. The games sellers were very friendly and helpful, explaining the "extra games". Calling the numbers was very clear and not at all frantic pace.

Wednesday (2/25)

"Box Day" As a non-member, I didn't know this existed. The process was simple, sign-in with the staff member at the little school desk outside the community room, get your number, wait to be called. We were given 2 Market Basket bags with foods. It wasn't filled to the brim with filet mignon, but nobody could argue that the contents weren't plentiful and a great supplement to any household.

Luncheon was next. For \$5, the plate was filled with shredded chicken enchiladas, black beans & rice, a side salad, and tres leches cake. (Note: we really only ate the cake, but the lunch itself was massive)

On to Cribbage! I sat it out in favor of catching up on phone calls, but I did some "heavy looking-on". I watched as Mom teamed up with a gentleman (J) against 2 very friendly and helpful ladies (M & R).

Friday (2/27)

Drop-in Breakfast was \$6. I enjoyed the scrambled eggs, English muffin, bacon and homefries while Mom made her way through a Belgian waffle, scrambled eggs and bacon. The dishes were even garnished with orange slices. Coffee, tea and juice was also available.

"Panera Pick-up" was next. A huge selection of breads, bagels, and pastries were donated. Mom was VERY happy with her "bagel booty" and I look forward to making grilled cheeses with the tomato basil bread loaf.

As always, staff and volunteers were extremely helpful and greeted us by name and/or mentioned that they were happy to see us back.

I know this report seems very food oriented, but, Mom likes food 🍴 and it seemed like a good way to slowly introduce her to new surroundings.

I stopped at the gift shop (twice more) to buy each of us a pocket calendar to keep track of all the social engagements for March.

There are more breakfasts, luncheons, cribbage, food boxes, Panera bagels, bingo, as well as a dj, pizza, comedian, and plenty more in our future (yes, yes, I know... a lot of food, but you don't know Mom 😊)

If you are of membership age and haven't joined, look in to it, they have a lot more than food - I promise. Arts & crafts, trips, pool games, etc.

If your parents are of age, encourage them to check it out. If the "not nearly old enough" roving reporter can have a great time in a building that is created to support and engage seniors, I'm sure there is something there for them too.

👍 104

21 comments

Board Discussions

Subcommittee Report- Subcommittee Chair Marguerite Massey reported that the first public session was held Tuesday March 10th with three board members and nine patrons in attendance. The meeting focused on discussing the need for a new senior center. Participants expressed that the current facility, originally a library, is inadequate due to limited space, noise issues, and parking challenges. There was consensus among attendees that a new center is necessary, with suggestions to rebrand the facility to attract a broader age range. Also mentioned in the report, viable option of using the current DPW site due to its accessibility and potential for outdoor activities. It is anticipated that the next session to be held on Friday March 20th at 11:30 will have the same questions but will address a larger audience.

COA Open House - Mary Riley brought up the topic of holding an open house event for the COA. The board discussed organizing a Senior Day open house at the COA facility in June, rather than May as initially proposed, to avoid conflicts with graduations and end-of-school activities. They agreed to set up a planning committee to coordinate the event, which will include demonstrations of various programs and activities, with food and family-friendly activities planned for the day.

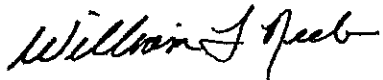
Future COA building plans - No further discussion at this time.

Next meeting date will be April 8, 2026. M/ Marguerite Massey S/ Mary Riley / With all in favor the Motion passed.

Motion to adjourn made by Phil Doiron S/ Marguerite Massey / With all in favor the Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 pm

Respectfully Submitted



William Neeb, Recording Secretary