

Council on Aging Board of Directors

April 21, 2022

Present: Director Jim Leyden, Chair Rose Morace, Vice Chair Phil Hallahan, Secretary Ellie Tyson, Ron Johnson, Jan Komaiszko, Sandra MacFadyen, Marjorie Morgan, Julia Moulton, Stephan Platzer, George Shea, Maryann Squier, Eleanor Stolar, Judy Yaffe, Tom Lachiusa select board liaison.

Absent: Saul Finestone, Marie Angelides

Guest: Kathleen Bowler, Director of Member Services

- I. **Welcome:** Rose opened the meeting at 9:30am and thanked all who helped put together the instruments to be used at town meeting.
- II. **Approval of Minutes:** The March 17, 2022 minutes were approved.
- III. **New / Old Business:**
 - a. **Massachusetts Council on Aging board workshop with Kathy Bowler:** Jim introduced Kathleen who had formally been head of the Holyoke Senior Center. She has since been 8 years in her position with elder affairs. At this time a new board directory is in the process of being completed and we will receive it when it is done. She said that we must "respect each other's opinions and pay attention to what others in the group are saying." We are all here to better serve the older seniors. She also noted that each community is different. Rose stated that we need to advocate for each other and that this is a work in progress in our new building. If we have questions and wish to speak to Kathleen, her number is (413) 271-4633. She has requested that our COA pick one to represent Longmeadow on the board. This will be discussed at our next meeting. Phil stated that the Longmeadow COA has abided by the by-laws approved by the select board and the guide given by the MA. Department of Elder Affairs. These standards of operation procedures have worked efficiently and has made our group successfully work together. Stephan wanted the group to know that there is a course in diversity at Longmeadow High School and that we want people to feel welcome to Longmeadow.
- IV. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned at 10:56 am.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elizabeth Tyson