

Maynard Council On Aging (COA) Board Meeting Minutes EXCERPTS relative to Facilities

April 8, 2021 Update on Mill & Main space for leasing and cost considerations. Discussion of next steps for exploring current and past options for senior center space. Consideration of whether a sub-committee should be created or other means to evaluate was discussed.

May 13, 2021 Assessment of the tour of the Boys & Girls Club facility as a potential location for the COA/Senior Center was outlined. Positive and negative aspects of the use of space meeting COA needs were discussed. Shared communication from Boys & Girls Club Executive Director with rental cost per year, days/vacation weeks and eleven weeks of summer when the COA would not be able to hold programs. The COA Board felt both the cost, need to modify COA's operating hours from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and the number of days when the COA could not hold programs was prohibitive and less than ideal compared to the current COA space. The Board voted unanimously not to move forward.

June 17, 2021 Amy updated the Board that Mill and Main had submitted a re-negotiated lease proposal. The lease would allow for the 9800 sq. ft. space to be rented as at 6000 sq. ft. for some portion of the total lease. The Board thought consideration of the new lease proposal was worth considering and voted unanimously to recommend the town administration to take the next steps necessary to evaluate the proposal.

Sep. 22, 2021 Amy presented a report to the Select Board on June 15 regarding the research done to date on a space for the senior center. She suggested the Board and individuals in attendance view the recording of the meeting as the report was extensive. Amy stated the search for a new space continued after moving to the golf course function and hasn't stopped. A space at Mill and Main met the recommendations of the Board (accessibility, parking, sufficient room to expand programs and attendance as well as proximity to downtown Maynard) but currently further discussion/negotiation is on hold due [sic]. The next step in considering any space would be to start an RFP process. Amy asked the Board if they would like to recommend to the Select Board consideration of starting a RFP process. The Board was unanimous in deciding to recommend and asked Amy to submit a letter to the Select Board. In addition, the Board asked that the letter ask the Select Board to elevate the priority of a space to meet the seniors' needs.

Oct. 19, 2021 The Select Board did not initiate a RFP (for a senior center space) per the COA Board's letter of recommendation to do so. The Select Board did recommend adding a space for the senior center to the capital planning project list and will be forwarding the COA Board's letter to the Capital Planning Committee. FY23 budget preparations will be starting. Leasing option will be included.

Nov. 16, 2021 Amy met with the Capital Planning Committee at the COA to discuss current issues with the senior center, including accessibility, parking roof issues and other concerns.

April 19, 2022 Select Board member Armand Diarbekirian was invited to join today's meeting to discuss a senior center study group that he has formed with other members of the community. Armand was unable to attend but will be re-invited to next month's meeting.

June 23, 2022 Select Board member Armand Diarbekirian attended the meeting and gave an update on the Senior Center Focus Group. The focus group is exploring short-term and long-term options for a senior center space. Armand mentioned the former John Deere property as an opportunity. Armand felt that the possibility of a new senior center would be 5-7 years from now though leasing space might move things forward. He noted that the focus group would be reporting their ideas to the COA Board. The COA Board asked that Armand continue to join the board each month.