

**TOWN OF MAYNARD
SENIOR CENTER COMMITTEE**

Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2024, 7pm

Final 12/2/2024

All remote meeting; Zoom only. (This public meeting was recorded.)

Present:

Jerry Culbert, Chair

Deb Roussell, Vice Chair

Mary Mitzcavitch

Paul Guthrie, interim clerk

Jack MacKeen

Mary Ann Bassett

Amy Loveless

Chris DiSilva (Select Board liaison)

Linda Holt (FinComm liaison)

Glenn Koenig (guest)

Absent:

Dan Shields, Stephanie Duggan, Mark Koenig

1. Meeting opening

Jerry Culbert called the meeting to order at 7:18 PM. A quorum was present.

2. Acceptance of prior meeting minutes

Minutes from November 7, 2024; no proposed changes; Jack moved to accept the minutes; Deb seconded. Approved by vote, 9-0, with one abstention (Josh).

3. Working group reports and updates

Josh: edits to the MAYCAL document in progress

- The census data in paragraphs 2 and 3 will be pared down to the basic numbers.
- Regarding inclusion of the UMass data: many Maynard seniors want to, but currently don't, use the Senior Center; spreading knowledge about the Center and its programs will bring in more participants.
- The sentence "inaccessible path to the men's room" will be removed.
- A brief introduction to the UMass section will be bolstered with PowerPoint slides from Amy.

Linda: Do we want to discuss the effects of upcoming tax increases, especially those affecting seniors in financial distress? Many seniors don't take advantage of tax assistance programs, and the major tax increases are years away.

Jack: Let us beef up this document, making it even stronger, and include the visitation data.

Presentations to the Quad Board and Select Board

- **Mary Ann Shields** presented our documents and proposals to both boards, and she was applauded for her professionalism and attention to detail.
- **May 2025 Town Meeting:** The stage will be set: the RFP will have been issued, responded to, and completed by this date. We will also intensify efforts to pitch the short-term plan to the public.
- **All committees** are set to be on the December Select Board agenda; we will ask that they go forward with the RFP.
- **Amy:** Regarding the whole RFP concept, the Select Board has been advised that the Senior Center Committee is contributing to the proposal.
- **Chris:** Mention of a multi-generational facility is not popular with the Town; let us also keep mention of a long-term lease to a minimum in discussions with the Select Board, concentrating on the short-term solution. Also, will the \$200K we're asking for actually be in the CoA budget, or an override? Chris will find out.
- **Linda:** Mention of "intergenerational" is indeed not popular! Regarding square footage, we should document where the 5000 square feet figure came from, in the FAQ and elsewhere.
- **Amy's** supporting presentation to the SB was praised for clarity and thought in space planning.

We must focus on the RFP, the most urgent item on our agenda. December would be ideal, giving us time to respond to new developments. Our December 5 meeting is just after the SB meeting on 12/3; important discussions will follow the SB meeting.

Greg Johnson will develop the RFP as Chief Procurement Officer.

Will the SB need to review the RFP before issuance? Yes, usually, such items are reviewed in executive session, then voted on in public.

4. New Business: none

5. Next meeting and adjournment

Our next meeting will be on 12/5/24 and will be Fully Remote. Deb moved to adjourn, seconded by Jack; adjourned at 8:09 PM by unanimous vote.