

**RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK  
BELMONT, MA**

DATE: August 23, 2021  
TIME: 10:00 AM

Council on Aging  
BOARD MEETING (virtual)  
Minutes  
Monday, November 9, 2020

Present: Mark Paolillo, Maryann Scali, Margie Wayne, , Ellen Sullivan, Tomi Olson, Michael Cahalane, Ethel Hamman, Joel Semuels, Chao-Qiang Lai, Chair, Dana Leavitt, Assistant Director

1. Call to Order C. Qiang-Lai - 8:06 pm
2. Senior Citizen Concerns- nothing to report

3. Review of Past Meeting Minutes T. Olson- accepted with edits

4. Updates and Correspondence

A. Director written report only- Three department chiefs resigned. There is roughly 11.2 million now in free cash. The Beech Street Center is trying to get plexiglass for separating seniors. Drivers always wear masks. Nava went to the Warrant Subcommittee alone. There will be 2 more meetings: December 3, and Wednesday December 9. Mark Paolillo, Maryann Scali and Ethel Hamman want to be there.

B. Assistant Director D. Leavitt- We discussed more programs. There have been difficulties getting seniors on Zoom. We will offer more fitness programming. Also, the Center is working with Watertown and Needham.

C. Friends: J. Semuels- There will be no virtual Craft Fair. A fashion show or big band remain possibilities. There is a fund-raising deficit. Next week, the annual mailing will go out with a request for donations.

D. Springwell - No report. J. Singler was not in attendance.

E. Report on Belmont Housing Trust Plan for McLean Property - nothing further to report. T. Olson or J. Singler-.

F. Report on Fire Chief Search Committee: Chao -Qiang-Lai – Committee met Oct. 29. There are approximately 11 qualified candidates. There were 20 applicants. Each qualifying candidate will write an essay with 2 weeks to finish. There are 3 candidates from Belmont. 5 finalists will be selected and tested.

#### Old Business

A. Discussion of Impact of April Override on COA -D. Leavitt said that there is not much to add. We were sent the budget by Nava some time ago. If there is an override, we will have an additional social worker with no cuts. If there is no override, then decisions will be made with the possibility of significant cuts. Dana will again forward the Budget Overview Summary.

## New Business

### A. Presentation by Nominating Committee

#### Of Slate to Elect New Officers -Chao- Qiang-Lai-

The nominating group consisted of Ted, Chao and Maryann. The slate recommended Mark Paolillo, Chair; Ellen Sullivan, Vice-Chair; Maryann Scali, Treasurer and Tomi Olson, Secretary. The slate was accepted by unanimous vote and the term is to start January 1, 2021.

B. Discussion and Vote to Appoint Ellen Sullivan as Ex-Officio to Housing Sub-Committee of Age Friendly Advisory Council D. Leavitt – This was discussed and all voted in favor of Ellen Sullivan to assume this role.

C. Discussion and Vote to Support Parking Permits for Seniors at Metered Parking Spots and Municipal Lots. D. Leavitt & M. Wayne

This idea was previously presented by Lt. Kristin Daley. This would involve parking spots for seniors in municipal parking lots. It is like the Watertown program. Concern was expressed regarding potential cost to seniors. Mark will express our concerns to the Select Board on December 5<sup>th</sup>.

We need to clarify the location of the parking. Ellen said that in Watertown, it costs the senior (over 65 years old) 3 dollars for two years. We should propose a similarly low fee. Other things to resolve is who will administer the program and how many permits are likely to be issued per month. This issue is tabled to next meeting to readdress it.

Adjourn – Next meeting will be December 7, 2020.

Adjourned at 8:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael Cahalane