

COA BOARD MEETING MINUTES 18 May 2023

This hybrid meeting was called to order at 8:30am by Chair Linda Johnson. She read the new introduction required by the Commonwealth:

Under current state law public bodies may continue holding hybrid and fully remote meetings, without a quorum of the public body physically present, as long as adequate, alternative access is provided. Information about how to join a hybrid or fully remote hearing will be included in the required Open Meeting Law posting.

Present: Alice Benson, Betsey Brew Boyd, Jane Donnelly, Paul Foley, Bob Froh, Vida Goldstein, Joan Heilbronner (Vice Chair), Linda Johnson (Chair), Wayne Johnson, Brian Kardon, Jean MacQuiddy, Prather Palmer, Sue Pauker, Shirley Small Rougeau (Associate Member), and Joan Ingersoll (Director, ex officio)

Absent: Sue Ruskin Friend, Tom Nicholson (Associate Member), Carol Ott, and Gerri Scoll (Associate Member)

Guests: Danielle Black (UPC Designee) and Warren Pinckert

Resident Concerns and Comments: None

Review and Approve Minutes

[The minutes of the meeting on April 20, 2023 were approved unanimously as submitted.](#)

Director's Report (Joan Ingersoll)

Report included information on Senior Watch Collaborative meeting, possible formation of intergenerational chess club, potential collaboration with Regis Life Long learning, Mass DOT grant opportunity, and future discussions about transportation options. Joan attended a rural COA conference at Fort Devins. Board members are encouraged to attend that conference in the future. In return for the COA expense incurred to promote Celebrate Weston, we will be a listed sponsor. Land's Sake to provide vouchers. Planning farewell party for departing van driver, Richard. A new van driver has been hired. Discussing pickle ball ideas with Recreation Dept.

Treasurer's Report (Prather Palmer)

Presented a full picture of funding sources YTD for the COA including Town funds, grants, and gifts.

Housing Report (Alice Benson)

Discussed conversations with builders focusing on senior housing and tour of Waterstone Lexington. Regis is looking to build senior housing on the east side of Wellesley Street. Brook School expansion still under discussion with Sunrise developer. Housing groups will have a table at Celebrate Weston and volunteering is encouraged.

[Motion was made to withdraw Board support for Friends of Weston Housing until they have better defined their mission. Motion passed with an 11-1 vote.](#)

Approval of FY '24 Officer's Slate

[A motion was made to approve the following slate of officers for 2024: Linda Johnson, Chair; Joan Heilbronner, Vice Chair; and Prather Palmer, Treasurer which was unanimously approved.](#)

Recruitment Update

Interviews of all candidates thus far have been completed. We are awaiting further information from Town Hall about next steps.

Governance Committee Report (Joan Heilbronner)

The proposed retreat with FCOA has been postponed.

Annual review of committees will begin soon. Discussions will focus on how the work of committees aligns with the goals that come out of the strategic planning/UPC planning process. Linda and Joan will review the Open Meeting Law to ensure all committees are in compliance. Finally, all committees must meet either in person or all Zoom because of limits on space and staff time.

Strategic Initiative Committee Report (Wayne Johnson)

Watched and discussed the presentation to the Select Board following the 2019 Needs Assessment and discussed future goals. Mission, Vision, and Values statement to be discussed further.

Community Connections

Discussed the variety of upcoming COA programming and social justice group plans for Race Amity Day (6/11 from 6:00pm-7:30pm). Paul reported he'd connected with Chaiwoo Lee at the MIT AgeLab who, along with several team members, will make a presentation the Committee and Board on 5/25 at 10am.

FCOA (Betsey Brew Boyd)

FCOA board members will attend June Board meeting.

Celebrate Weston (Betsey Brew Boyd)

Details of event on 5/20 were reviewed, and everyone was encouraged to sign up for 90 minute shifts to help represent the COA. Joan will send updates to all volunteers on Friday.

Other Business

Walk and talk with Town Manager on 5/24 from 1-2pm
Annual Reports are available at the front desk.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:31am.

Next Meeting:

June 15, 2023 at 8:30am

*Respectfully submitted by Joan Heilbronner
15 June 2023*