

Minutes of COA Board Meeting Tuesday, June 14, 2022 – Via Zoom

Board Members Present: Stephanie Becker-Stone, James Bennett (**not audible nor visible**), Lois Carra, Jennifer Chisholm, Kathy Dalton, Mary DeCoursey, Lily Owyang, and Eva Paddock.

Absent: Beverly Sealey

Staff Present: Lisa Castagna, Alicia Johnson, Vincent McCarthy, and Susan Pacheco

Call to Order – President Owyang called meeting to order at 9:33 a.m.

Review/Acceptance of minutes: Motion made by Eva Paddock, seconded by Jennifer Chisholm. Minutes unanimously approved.

Executive Director – Susan Pacheco

Yi-An Huang Selected as Next Cambridge City Manager

The Cambridge City Council voted to make an offer of employment to Yi-An Huang as the next City Manager at a special meeting held on Monday, June 6, 2022. Mr. Huang will succeed City Manager Louis A. DePasquale who is retiring on July 5, 2022. The appointment of Mr. Huang is contingent on successful contract negotiations.

The City Council also voted to appoint Department of Public Works Commissioner Owen O’Riordan as interim Acting City Manager effective July 6, 2022. He will serve as interim Acting City Manager until Mr. Huang is appointed.

Starting in January 2022, the City Council engaged the services of an Executive Search Firm, Randi Frank, LLC, to help recruit the next City Manager. In January and February, the City underwent a robust community engagement period that helped shape the [Leadership Profile](#), which was used to outline the role and recruit qualified candidates that fit the needs of the Cambridge community. Additional information on the Cambridge City Manager search process can be found at: www.cambridgema.gov/citymanagersearch

Background Information on Yi-An Huang:

Mr. Huang is currently the Executive Director of Boston Medical Center (BMC) Hospital Clinical Operations since 2021. Between 2018 and 2021, he served as Chief Transformation Officer and Senior Director - Population Health Analytics for the BMC Health Plan. From 2013 to 2018, he served as Senior Director of Clinical Operations, Director of Strategy and Senior Project Manager for the BMC Hospital. Mr. Huang has a Master’s in Business Administration from Harvard University.

Mr. Huang has been a Cambridge resident for over 15 years and has three children in the Cambridge Public School system.

Link to the story on the City’s website:

<https://www.cambridgema.gov/news/2022/06/yianhuangselectedasnextcambridgecitymanager>

COA Activities Team – Alicia Johnson

The Activities Team continues to work with instructors and vendors to bring new and returning programming to the senior center as an in-person activity. We will continue with a phased in approach.

June 1st Crafts & Social group returned to *in-person*

- June 2nd, we welcomed back participants from the Haitian Elder Group for a meeting and lunch. June 7th was the start of a new Gentle Morning Jive class *in-person*
Monday Gentle Morning Jive continues as a *virtual class*
- June 9th the Book Group will meet as *hybrid*
- June 9th Health & Wellness presentation with Roberta Robinson *in-person*
- June 16th Arts & Crafts, Painting on Wood: Create your own Welcome Sign *in-person*
- June 22nd Chinese Singers & Folk dancing Father's Day performance and lunch *in-person*
- June 23rd Cooking demonstration with Neville Place *in-person*
- June 30th Lunch & Learn with Brian Corr: History of Juneteenth *in-person*

Audio/Visual Equipment is scheduled for installation in the Arts & Crafts room on Tuesday June 14th. Having this equipment will allow us to offer more Hybrid classes. Installation of equipment in the Ballroom has not yet been scheduled.

Healthy Aging & Cycling Series: A collaboration between the Council on Aging and Community Development Department.

The Healthy Aging & Cycling series consists of three series:

- Power Pedal-Spin classes
- On Bike Skills Clinics
- Group Rides

The Power Pedal series concluded on June 2nd and had 69 people signed up, with 20 regular attendees. After July 1st, the On Bike Skills Clinic will begin, followed by the Group Rides series.

The Healthy Aging & Cycling Program was featured in the MassMobility May 2022 issue. As a result, a staff member from Age Strong Boston reached out to learn more about details and startup of the series. A future meeting is being planned.

Cambridge Senior Center In-Person stats ***At a Glance***

March 2022	Total participants checking in: 765	Total Event Sign-in's: 1,475
April 2022	Total participants checking in: 818	Total Event Sign-in's: 1,652
May 2022	Total participants checking in: 969	Total Event Sign-in's: 1,914

Client Services – Vincent McCarthy

Our monthly Men's Group continues to be well attended. The group will meet on the third Tuesday of the month. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, June 21st.

Consumers' Council

Laura Nichols, Executive Director of The Cambridge Consumers' Council will be at the Cambridge Council on Aging on June 23rd to meet with seniors. This will be an ongoing meeting that will take place on the 4th Thursday of every month

New group beginning in July - Veterans and Friends Support Group

Wednesday July 13th. This group will be held in the Kitchen Classroom on the 2nd floor. This group will be facilitated by Dee Cannon, Outreach Case Manager. This is an ongoing group and will meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month.

Returning program in July – Film & Discussion Tuesday, July 26th Joe Bell (2020).

This will be our first in person meeting of Film & Discussion since 2/2020

Old Business: None

New Business:

- As reported at the May Board meeting, ED attended Trauma-Informed Law Enforcement Training Program (June 6th – 8th). The training was presented through the guidance and direction of experts in trauma, community-based service providers, and law enforcement agencies across the country. The program provided education, resources, and practical training for police officers, along with service providers. The program's goal, that attendees developed skills and strategies to manage one's own trauma, mitigate the potential for trauma and respond to the signs and symptoms of trauma. It was an intense 3 days, but grateful to have had an opportunity to join. There were approximately 40 attendees, and I was one of 4 non-law enforcement.
- June is Elder Abuse Awareness month. ED has shared the Op-ed piece to the Board, but this is the direct link to the news story: [Direct link to news story on City site](#)
- Follow up to COA Staff Retreat on May 5, 2022. The focus question: "Who are we not serving and what do they want and need?" When we find that out, then our plan is to answer the question: "How does our programming need to change to meet those needs?"
- A new phone scam has surfaced called smishing. Smishing is the act of sending text messages claiming to be from reputable sources, with the intent to get personal or financial information from someone. Smishing messages trick their victims into revealing important information like one's social security number, credit card number, or account passwords. If you think you have been a victim of a smishing scam, you can file a report with the Federal Communications Commission [FCC Complaints](#) or you could file with the Federal Trade Commission [ReportFraud.ftc.gov](#).

Lois Carra motioned to adjourn. Seconded by Kathy Dalton. Meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, September 13th, 2022 @ 9:30 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Lisa Castagna.