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Minutes of the Commission on Aging Monthly Meeting
October 7, 2026

Attendees: Vice-Chair Robert Berman, Halesteen Graham Days, Marie MacDonald, Chair Patricia Miller, Kay Sherman, Shirley Thompson, Peter Wilcox

Absent: E. Leon Rivers and Jeanette Rivers

Guests: Luz Cora-Small (Senior Services Liaison), Lori Myers (Senior Services)

The meeting was called to order at 12:40 pm.

Old Business

UR Community Cares continues to offer additional Techie Time technical support sessions through May 2027. The Senior Services Department sponsors these sessions but have also received a grant to subsidize some sessions. Technical support is provided through one-on-one sessions and group sessions.

The 19th Annual Senior Expo occurred on September 15 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Approximately 100 residents participated in this event. The assistance provided by three COA volunteers at the Senior Services and COA table was greatly appreciated.

A Paint Night Party occurred on Friday, September 25 in partnership with Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services Department.

New Business

The Senior Services Department will be doing a Turkey distribution again this year in November. Dog Star Rescue has volunteered to donate turkeys and some of the sides again this year. The goal is to distribute turkeys to at least 100 residents. COA members asked how they could assist so a list of food that we will be distributing was provided, corn, potatoes, gravy and stuffing.

The possibility of adopting a family through Social and Youth Services for the holiday season was discussed. COA members agreed to further discuss the proposal as a group and make a decision at the next meeting. Additionally, a suggestion was made to explore opportunities to assist senior housing developments with any identified needs during the Commission on Aging's planned visits in the spring.

The Senior Holiday Luncheon in partnership with the Blue Hills Fire Department will occur on Monday, December 21 at the Blue Hills Fire Department. Registration just opened on October 6, and we are almost at fifty percent capacity.

A discussion about whether lunch should be offered at each COA meeting was decided. It was voted on and it was decided that lunch would be provided when visiting local housing

developments as well as in the months of June, September and December. It was also discussed that the meeting time should be changed to 12:00 pm starting in November. All members agreed to this change in time and Lori stated she would notify the Town Clerk office.

Public Comments

A question was posed on how the Commission on Aging can support the Senior Services department. The COA members stated they would like to know what the needs are and what the future plans are that they can collaborate with. A question was asked about what other Senior Centers are doing within their COA. The COA members would like to have a list of local COA meetings and locations to see if they would be able to attend and see how their meetings are conducted and what activities they plan or participate in. One suggestion was also to see if the Bloomfield Senior Center could start offering overnight trips again.

Members requested to have representatives from AARP, AAA and the Commission on Aging on the State level visit Bloomfield's COA meetings. There was also a suggestion to have a possible forum with all the representatives at one time. Luz will determine who will be able to reach out on behalf of the COA to request visitors.

Robert Berman asked if the headquarters of BATV would be moving to 330 Park Avenue. As of today, there are plans for BATV to move to the building but at this time it is currently delayed.

The COA would like to continue to visit more senior housing developments in the future. Bob Berman reached out to Federation Homes, but they were not able to meet this month. He will revisit a new date in the Spring.

The minutes for the September 2026 meetings were approved, with a motion by Robert Berman and seconded by Peter Wilcox.

Shirley Thompson made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Robert Berman. The meeting was adjourned at 1:40 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 12:00 p.m. on November 4, 2026, at 330 Park Avenue.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Sherman and Lori Myers