Pursuant to Massachusetts Open Meeting Law, M.G.L. c. 30A, §, § 18-25, notice is hereby given of a meeting of the Town of Hingham Council on Aging to take place as follows:

Town of Hingham
Council on Aging
Tuesday, July 14, 2026
1:00 PM

Meeting Minutes

Remote Meeting Via Zoom
Webinar ID: 856 3113 4195
Passcode: 02043
Website: https://zoom.us/join
Call in: 929 205 6099

Or

In- Person
Center for Active Living
224 Central Street
Hingham, MA 02043

Meeting Minutes

Attendance: Joe Nevins, Megan Hansen, Rory Earley, Elaine Ward, Sara Smithson, Karen Johnson, Leon Merian, Donald Marsters, Josh Ross, Maureen Spillane, and Jennifer Young.
Apologies: Sharon Hampton

1. Call to order
2. Chair remarks
    a. Welcome to new members, Sharon Hampton, Maureen Spillane and Donald Marsters.
    b. Chair proposed an amended order to the agenda to begin with the Director's report and to open for public comment.
    c. Special town meeting Oct 28th.
3. Director's report
    a. Below

12. Public comment
Kathy Berry 120 high street – speaking on behalf of
Concerns – height of the toilets and no grab bars
Chairs are too heavy and wide to move. We can't get around the chairs. The chairs are too low for the tables.
Senior newsletter too confusing and are requesting simplified font and colors.
Requested that the calendar be added to the newsletter
There are other concerns that we will bring up on another day.
Signatures have been collected. Attached.

4. Minutes June 9 meeting
Amended minutes with roll call adjustments to include Josh and Sara voting yes for Elaine Ward as secretary and Sara voting yes for Josh Ross as vice chair.
Motion to approve the minutes as amended: Sara Smithson, Second Josh Ross,
Joe Nevins: Yes
Megan Hansen: Yes
Rory Earley: Yes
Elaine Ward: Yes
Karen Johnson: Yes
Leon Merian: Yes
Donald Marsters: new to board
Maureen Spillane: new to board

6. Strategic Plan Review – FY27 Goals and Priorities
Sara proposing using the document to establish goals for the upcoming year.

Elaine requested a status update for FOCAL. FOCAL is asking for COA to provide a wish list of things that need funding. E.g. medical rides. FOCAL liaison is Yvette Kanter.

7. COA Operational Procedures
Board members should participate in a subcommittee.

Standing committees:
- Budget
- Facilities
- Outreach and Communications
- Volunteer Program

Annually Appointed:
- Nominating

Ad Hoc
- Operational Procedures
- Policy and Procedures

External committee representatives
- Town building committee
- Human Rights Commission – does not need to be a current board member.

10. Other Business
Sara reported out June 16th Town had Select Board a meeting for ideas for HCAL. Suggestions from residents included: Use existing building, look at Town Hall again, Hitchcock building, south shore country club, improve parking and operations. Reengage public again to get input. There is no consensus across the town, there are groups of people with different ideas. It is up to the Select Board to provide direction to the building committee. Some brought up the opening hours and programming schedule.

13. Motion to adjourn at 2:20 Josh Ross. Second Joe Nevins.
Joe Nevins – yes
Megan Hansen - yes
Rory Earley – yes

Elaine Ward – yes
Sara Smithson – yes
Karen Johnson – yes
Leon Merian – left at 2:05 pm
Donald Marsters – yes

This meeting is being held remotely/or in person as an alternate means of public access pursuant to Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2025 and all other applicable laws temporarily amending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law. You are hereby advised that this meeting and all communications during this meeting may be recorded by the Town of Hingham in accordance with the Open Meeting Law. If any participant wishes to record this meeting, please notify the chair at the start of the meeting in accordance with M.G.L. c. 30A, § 20(f) so that the chair may inform all other participants of said recording.