

KINGSTON COUNCIL ON AGING ADVISORY BOARD MEETING
SEPTEMBER 27, 2024

Special meeting called to order at 10:00 a.m. on Friday, September 27, 2024 at the Kingston Town House, Room 203 and broadcast on Local Seen with Zoom available for those not able to attend. Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Board Members Present: Caty Starr-Chairman, Donna Weinberg-Vice Chair, Kathy Studley, Mary Hayes, Mary Harriman and Associate Member, Lucy Colletta.

Other members present: Holly Nighelli, Interim Director, Kingston Council on Aging, Keith Hickey, Kingston Town Administrator and a public body of seniors from community.

Announcements: None.

Open Forum: At this time, open forum, the public body attending this meeting were invited to speak by Caty Starr, Chairman. There were no comments or questions asked by any seniors at this time given the chance to speak.

New Business: Keith Hickey discussed staffing changes at the COA since the resignation of MaryBeth Lawton, Director Council on Aging. He told the group of the appointment of Holly Nighelli as Interim Director of Council on Aging voted upon at the September 24, 2024 Select Board Meeting.

Keith also stated that there would not be any changes made to the Senior Center or its hours, keeping Tuesday still the later day closing at 7:30 p.m. with all the usual programs.

Keith stated that there would not be any job posting for this position until the COA Advisory Board reviewed and suggested any changes to this Director Job Description at their next meeting. After that, the Select Board would review, approve and vote these changes at their following meeting. Once position posted, Keith mentioned that a committee would be formed for the interview process consisting of Keith, a couple COA Advisory Board Members, a Department Head and Human Resources. Any finalists chosen by committee would get a second interview.

Lucy Colletta, Associate Member of the COA Advisory Board asked if a senior from the community could be part of this interview committee. Keith answered no, but stated that any seniors who had suggestions or questions regarding these interviews could contact the COA Advisory Board. Kathy Studley, a COA Advisory Board Member also suggested if seniors had questions, they could send them to the COA Advisory Board email: coa-ab@kingstonma.gov.

Toward the end of this meeting, a few attendees from the audience then decided to ask a couple questions or make comments. Caty Starr, Chairman of the COA Advisory Board, reminded them that their concerns could only be spoken earlier at this meeting during open forum, following policy.

Next regular COA Advisory Board meeting to be held on Tuesday, October 8, 2024, 11:30 a.m. at Senior Center.

Motion made to adjourn meeting at 10:14 a.m. by Donna Weinberg and Kathy Studley seconded. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Weinberg, Vice Chair COA Advisory Board, Interim Secretary