

Wellesley Council on Aging
Vaccine Policy Development Sub-Committee
Thursday, February 10, 2022 at 5:00pm
ONLINE REMOTE MEETING via ZOOM format

Present: Heather Munroe, Marlene Allen, Tina Wang, Lori Ferrante

Meeting commenced at 5:10pm

Marlene Allen moved to accept the minutes of January 19, 2022 and Lori Ferrante seconded. Minutes were accepted.

Marlene presented proposed edits to the "POLICY REGARDING VACCINE MANDATE FOR ATTENDANCE AT COA FUNCTIONS AND PROGRAMMING", incorporating suggestions put forth by the Department of Health. Edits were discussed and accepted, as noted on the red-lined document (*see page 2 of minutes*).

The proposed implementation date was moved to March 2nd, to avoid any confusion on Election Day, March 1.

Various scenarios were discussed, including how staff would handle a patron who refuses to comply with the policy and wants to enter the building. The process for attesting to a medical exemption was also discussed. Heather and the management team will further refine procedures to address scenarios.

An electronic survey will be sent to patrons on Friday, February 11, to gauge opinion and response to the proposed policy. A draft of the survey will be sent to the COA Board for review in advance. Responses will be shared prior to the next Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:15pm.

Minutes respectfully submitted,
Lori Ferrante

Approved by COA Board on 04.21.22

DRAFT

POLICY REGARDING COVID-19 VACCINE MANDATE REQUIREMENT FOR ATTENDANCE AT COA FUNCTIONS AND PROGRAMMING

Due to the following:

- ~~WHEREAS~~, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts remains under a Public Health Emergency as declared by Governor Charles Baker due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

~~WHEREAS~~, the coronavirus remains highly infectious through the development of variants;

~~WHEREAS~~ the latest variant, Omicron, appears to be even more infectious than prior iterations of the virus;

~~WHEREAS~~ the physiological effects of the virus can be severe and deadly even without co-morbidity conditions;

- ~~WHEREAS~~ the virus is particularly serious and deadly to susceptible populations such as those over the age of 60; and
- ~~WHEREAS~~ the available vaccines have been proven to date to protect against infection, to mitigate the symptoms if a vaccinated person contracts the illness, and to decrease the risk that the virus will be transmitted to others;

~~NOW, THEREFORE~~, the Council on Aging adopts the following policy:

All COA patrons, volunteers, and instructors/presenters who wish to participate in activities or programs at the Tolles Parsons Center must provide proof of vaccination against the COVID-19 virus commencing on March 2, 2022.

1. ~~Vaccination must be either by 2 doses of the Pfizer or Moderna vaccine or one dose of the J&J vaccine AND a booster shot, if eligible.~~
2. Proof of **up to date** vaccination must be shown to a staff member or volunteer greeter upon entry to the Tolles-Parsons Senior Center.
3. Proof of **up to date** vaccination must be in the form of the paper CDC card (or copy), a digital photo of the CDC card, or a current electronic form. In the event that COA patrons, volunteers, or instructors/presenters forget the aforementioned proof at their time of entry, they must sign an attestation form confirming they are **fully vaccinated up to date with their vaccinations.**
4. Failure to comply with this policy will result in denial of admission.
5. **A medical exemption may be approved by a manager upon receiving a note from a medical professional to support the request.** There will be no religious ~~or medical~~ exemption.

This policy is subject to revision due to the evolving nature of the pandemic.

Adopted this ___ day of _____

COUNCIL ON AGING