



Ruthanne Fuller  
Mayor

City of Newton, Massachusetts  
Office of the Mayor

**#566-22**

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December 12, 2022

Honorable City Council  
Newton City Hall  
1000 Commonwealth Avenue  
Newton, MA 02459

Honorable City Councilors:

I respectfully submit this docket item to this Honorable Council requesting the appointment of Mignonne Murray as Director of Senior Services.

Mignonne is an extremely well qualified professional with experience in social & recreational services and facilities for older residents. She comes to Newton from Weston where she has been the Executive Director of the Council on Aging/Senior Services for the past six years. Prior to that, she worked in Auburn as the Executive Director of the Senior Center & Elder Affairs Division, and in Natick as the Assistant Director & Program Director for the Council on Aging and Human Services Department. (In Natick, she coordinated the move of the Senior Center to a temporary location while the town built its new Community-Senior Center; she then coordinated the move into the new facility and helped develop the policies, procedures and operations at the new site.)

Her experience will be invaluable as we have transitioned Senior Services into satellite locations while a new senior center is built at 345 Walnut Street in Newtonville. The new facility, which we've been calling NewCAL, will open in late summer or early fall 2024.

Ms. Murray lived and worked here in Newton in the early 2000's, serving as the Resident Services Coordinator for three years for the Newton Housing Authority. She is passionate about serving older residents and fostering an age-friendly community. She is curious, involved deeply in the Massachusetts Council of Aging, and continuously looking for best practices. She is warm, upbeat and energetic, with a long history of working collaboratively across departments.

I look forward to Ms. Murray joining us Monday, Jan. 9. She takes the baton from Jayne Colino who is retiring after 32 years. Jayne leaves a significant legacy as Newton's first and only Director of Senior Services. In the [Mayor's Update](#) of October 4, 2022, I detailed the great career, accomplishments and attributes of Jayne and her impact on the City of Newton.

Thank you for your timely consideration of this appointment.

Sincerely,

Mayor Ruthanne Fuller

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**Mignonne Murray**



**EDUCATION**

**Master's Degree in Public Administration**, Framingham State College, Framingham MA.  
**Bachelor's of Arts Degree**, Sociology, Wheaton College, Norton, MA.

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Council on Aging (COA), Town of Weston**, Weston, MA

**Executive Director**

December 2016 – present

- Provide vision for program and social service development in the changing landscape of aging to meet the needs and expectations of older adults and their families.
- Coordinate weekly zoom meetings between 8 COA directors during the pandemic.
- Modernize programs, services, and marketing of the department to serve the older adult population of today and those that are aging into the demographic who have different expectations than previous generations.
- Responsible for operational and fiscal management of the department.
- Advocate for the needs of older adults and their caregivers.
- Identify and apply for funding grants; maintain appropriate records and reports; accounts for grant funds.
- Collaborate with the Police Department, Fire Department, Board of Health, Recreation Department and other town departments as well as non-profits, community groups, Springwell, transportation professionals, and health providers in coordinating Town social services for older adults.
- Redesign Council on Aging space within the Community Center to support current needs and use.
- Update logo, newsletter, promotional materials, business cards, letterhead, etc.

**Senior Center, Town Auburn**, Auburn, MA

**Executive Director of the Senior Center and Elder Affairs Division**

August 2014 - November 2016

- Managed the Senior Center and Division of Elder Affairs.
- Determined the needs of the older adult population and serve as a resource on matters pertaining to the older adults for the Town.
- Prepared the division's budget request and monitor appropriated funds to stay within spending guidelines.
- Researched additional sources of funds; prepared and submitted grant applications to external funding sources for specific program funding; administered grants received.
- Planned programs for older adults and expanded social service capacity.
- Supervised both office staff, social services staff, instructors as well as volunteers.

- Advocated for clients in areas of health, education, vocation, housing, legal and family interactions.
- Provide crisis intervention and mediate conflicts between clients.