



Town of Fairhaven Council on Aging

Fairhaven Council on Aging • 229 Huttleston Ave, Fairhaven, MA 02719
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Fairhaven Council on Aging • Board Meeting Minutes September 12, 2023

Present: Martha Reed, Carol Burt, Susan Oistead, Terry Pereira, and Joan Mello, Jackie Kenworthy, Lee Allaire

Absent: Robert Ryan

- 1.) **The meeting was legally posted on September 7, 2023**
- 2.) **The meeting was called to order by Martha Reed at 9:10am**
- 3.) **Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. Lee Allaire made a motion to accept the minutes from the August 8, 2023 meeting, Carol Burt seconded, vote passes.
- 4.) **Financial Report:**

Two months in to the fiscal year so far. Currently spent about 15% of the total budget, this amount is in line for the year. A few unexpected issues have occurred. The hot water tank was replaced due to a leak; the amount for the new hot water tank was paid for out of the Town Hall Custodians Budget. We have also had a few small van repairs including AC recharging and exhaust repairs.
- 5.) **Old Business:**
 - a. **Intergenerational Summer Programming:** Field day on August 23 was great. There was wonderful feedback and we have hopes to do it again next year.
 - b. **UMASS- Leduc Center Corsair Engagement:** Students were expected recently, due to a bussing issue they were unable to come. There are hopes to have them come in the fall.
 - c. **Fall Programming:** Still looking to fill the Friday timeslot that was once Zumba Gold.
 - d. **Community Health Fair:** The decision has been made to move the Health Fair to the Spring time to find more vendors and sponsors.
- 6.) **New Business:**
 - a. **Digital Literacy Grant:** The COA will be receiving all new laptops for our technology classes as well as a large touch screen. The order is placed and they should be delivered soon. The grant will also cover the weekly Tech Café with students who will do 1 on 1 work with seniors to help them with all thing tech. This will be on Wednesdays for 1 hour. The Fairhaven COA is the only COA in the Southeast MA that received this grant.
 - b. **Social Day:** Hoping to open up to 4 days a week, making the 4th day a Friday.
 - c. **Breakfast Bus:** Beginning in October there will be a breakfast bus run to the Rochester COA for Breakfast. There will be a \$2 fee for transportation; guests will have to bring their own funds to pay for their breakfast.
- 7.) **Director's Report**
 1. Senior Center/Program Utilization: The Senior Center hosted 82 events in August. 508 unduplicated persons attended these events at the Senior Center for a total of 2,474 units of service last month (swipes). The daily utilization rate for the center in August was 92. SHINE Counselors continue to assist clients with Mass Health recertification's and Medicare enrollments, serving a total of 105 clients last month.

2. Transportation Utilization: 231 Rides were provided to 78 seniors in August.
3. Volunteers: In August, 18 Persons volunteered 475 hours at the Senior Center. The dollar value of these volunteer hours is over \$12,800.
4. Community Needs: 2 Seniors were assisted with SNAP recertification's and new applications. 3 Seniors were assisted in completing housing applications.
5. In-person event highlights: 60 Seniors participated in Supper Clubs. 57 Seniors participated in the congregate lunch program in August.
6. Social Day: Please see the attached report from Sally Bourke.
7. Intergenerational Activities: We held the first Intergenerational Field Day with the children attending the Kool Kids Summer Camp at the Rec Center on August 23, 2023. We had 36 Children and 30 Seniors participated in the event. The day consisted of horse race games in the morning, a cookout lunch, a magic show, and the day ended with ice cream from Dorothy Cox. All participants received a ribbon for participating in the event. **Martha Reed made note that during the Intergenerational Field day there was one little boy who's horse did not get to move much during the Horse race. She gave her horse to the little boy to make him feel better. Martha felt this was such an act of kindness that she rewarded her with a small note pad and thanking her for her kindness.**
8. Fall Programming: We are still looking to fill the Friday time slot with either a new Zumba Instructor or another type of Cardio Dance program. Originally we were going to hold a Community Health Fair in October, but have decided to move this to the spring to allow more time to find sponsors and vendors. The SHINE counselors are preparing for the annual Medicare Open Enrollment beginning October 15th, and we are taking names and scheduling appointments to ensure that everyone who needs an appointment gets one.
9. Digital Literacy Grant: The Fairhaven COA has been awarded \$16,868 from the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs to enhance digital literacy for seniors. This grant will allow us to purchase all new laptops and upgraded equipment for the Senior Center. It will also allow us to operate a weekly Tech Café.

8.) Social Day Coordinators Report:

Activities: Exercise, Bingo/Jingo, Trivia, Current Events, Reminisce, Crafts, Puzzle Group, Horse Race Game, Baking Group, Walking Group, Frisbee Toss, Left, Right, Center Game, Moxie Mobility, Lucky Dog, Adult Coloring Pages & Penny Ante, & Bunco, & Sing along with "Suzie"

Entertainment this month:

1. 8/3 – Singer Lisa Soares
2. 8/24- Karaoke with Rick Ferreira

Notes:

1. 8/8- The Champs Summer Program, joined the Seniors in an art project.
2. 8/17- Celebrating Mexico! The participants enjoyed Fajita Sliders, Tres Leches Cake, and Mexican Street Corn. The participants enjoyed watching Rick Steves as he took them through Mexico
3. 8/22- 8/22-Troy DE Couto from the **Fairhaven Fire Department** visited us at the **Fairhaven Social Day Program** to demonstrate how to properly use a Fire Extinguisher.

4. **8/23-** The Social Day Clients join the Kool Kid Recreation Program for a fun day of activities. They all enjoyed a cookout with Hamburgers and Hot dogs, Outdoor games were played and they ended the day by being entertained by **Magician Lynn Dillies!**

Upcoming Events:

9/7/23- George Hubert will be here to Sing and play the Guitar.

9/14- Outdoor Picnic Lunch and Games!

9/21/23- Visiting Poland with Rick Steve's and enjoying some Polish food for lunch!

9/28/23- Memory Café with Singer Jordan Pavia

Total Units Serviced for the month was 303 with a client average of 22

9.) Next Meeting : October 10, 2023 at 9:00am

10.) Roll Call & Adjournment: Martha Reed adjourned the meeting at 9:29 am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jocelyn Bowers
Principal Office Assistant - Fairhaven COA