



Town of Fairhaven Council on Aging

Fairhaven Council on Aging • 229 Huttleston Ave, Fairhaven, MA 02719
Telephone 508.979.4029 • Fax 508.979.4116



Fairhaven Council on Aging • Board Meeting Minutes December 12, 2023

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

- 1.) The meeting was legally posted on December 7, 2023
- 2.) The meeting was called to order by Martha Reed at 9:03am
- 3.) Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Jacqueline Kenworthy made a motion to accept the minutes from the September 12 2023 meeting, Lee Allaire seconded, vote passes.
- 4.) Financial Report:

Currently at 40% of the operating budget. Any major repairs that have been conducted have been covered by the Facilities Department.
- 5.) Old Business:
 - a. **Holiday Winter Activities and Events:** COA Christmas Party is upcoming. Entertainment Jordan Paiva has cancelled. He has been replaced with Eddie Freitas and we will do Music Bingo.
 - b. **FY25 Capital Request and Budget season update:** Currently level funding the budget, asking for a part time outreach worker. Also received estimates to replace the moving wall as it is need replacement. It would cost approximately 14K and does not meet the threshold. A discussion will be in the future with the Town Administrator as well as accounting.
 - c. **Veteran's Day Luncheon and Parade Participation:** Both events were well attended. 6 people rode the bus and over 50 attended the luncheon. Thank you to All Trust Bank.
 - a. **Thanksgiving Dinner Update:** Over 50 people were in attendance for Thanksgiving and all donations had covered the food.
- 6.) New Business
 - a. **Hybrid Programming Grant Award:** The Hybrid Grant was approved and it will go live on April 1st. This grant will allow us to reach those in the community who are not able to come to the center. It will also include two times a month, a mobility course, that includes home safety due to the 30% increase in fall related calls this year.
 - b. **Proposal gift cards for SHINE councilors:** Open enrollment has finished. Dianne and Carolyn are just fantastic. They have helped over 200 people during open enrollment and Martha would like to reward them with gift cards that will be purchased out of the gift account. The board had a great response and unanimously agreed to reward Dianne and Carolyn with the use of funds from the gift account.
 - c. **Setting up an emergency fund:** There are times in the community that seniors have emergencies that are small but impactful. There are not a lot of resources for those who need it. Martha would like to set up a small incidental fund every year that does not

anticipate to exceed \$1,000.00. The Board unanimously agreed to set up a small fund for residents only that are in need.

- d. **AARP Tax Senior Tax Services:** AARP is coming back in February. Paper work that goes along with the tax preparation should be available shortly as well as the days/times to book appointments. This is a free service for basic refunds.

7.) Directors Report

Senior Center/Program Utilization: The Senior Center hosted a total of 425 events in November. 614 unduplicated persons attended these events total of 2,471 units of service (swipes). The daily utilization rate for the center in November was 88. SHINE Counselors continued with Open Enrollment and assisted 88 clients with Medicare and Medicaid enrollments in November.

Transportation Utilization: 217 Rides were provided to 87 seniors in November. Will not be going to the Warwick Mall due to the bridge issues in RI, another place will be decided shortly.

Volunteers: 19 volunteers provided over 500 hours of service at the COA in November, with a value of almost \$14,000.

Community Needs: 4 Seniors were assisted with SNAP recertification's and new applications. Two seniors were assisted with housing applications. 4 new households were assisted with CSFP services.

In-person event highlights: 54 Seniors participated in Supper Clubs in November. 54 Seniors participated in the congregate lunch program, 53 persons were served a Thanksgiving Meal, and 30 persons attended the Memory Café.

Social Day: Please see the attached report from Sally Bourke.

Programming: The COA Christmas Party is scheduled for 12/20, we are grateful that we were able to secure a replacement for the entertainment for the party, as Jordan Paiva notified us that he had to cancel his performance due to health issues. The entertainment will be Christmas Music Bingo hosted by Eddie Freitas.

Hybrid Programming Grant: EOEa has awarded us \$17,727.59 for Hybrid Programming for Councils on Aging.

A special thank you to Joe Beaulieu Farm for sponsoring the Senior Supper Club dinner with Pot Roast.

8.) Social Day Coordinators Report:

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

Entertainment in November:

11/9- Music by Steve Hurt, 11/14 George Hubert Sings and plays Guitar, 11/30 Singers Tony and Pat

Notes:

11/16- Enjoying and learning the history of Table Talk pies
11/21- Thanksgiving celebration with Turkey and all the fixings.
11/23- The Fairhaven COA will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday.
11/29- Decorating the Christmas tree at the Fairhaven Town Hall & Lunch.
11/30- Celebrating November Birthdays

Upcoming Events:

Lots of Christmas baking going on in the month of December! Hazelnut Yule log, Cocoa Bombs, Christmas Breads and Eggnog Cupcakes.

12/5 Christmas songs with George Hubert

12/19 Christmas show with Rebecca Pink

12/20 Christmas Caroling at the Town Hall, Holiday Party-Christmas Musical Bingo with Eddie Freitas.

12/21 Christmas Dinner followed by the Christmas Bingo

12/25 Christmas- COA CLOSED

12/28 New Years Eve buffet and celebration with entertainment by Rebecca Pink

Total Units Serviced for the month was 247 with a client average of 19

9.) Next Meeting : January 9, 2024 at 9:00am

10.) Roll Call & Adjournment: Lee Allaire made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:25am, Jacqueline Kenworthy Seconded. Meeting Adjourned

Respectfully Submitted,



Jocelyn Bowers
Administrative Assistant - Fairhaven COA