

Fairhaven Council on Aging  
Board Meeting Minutes  
July 11, 2022

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TOWN CLERK

Present: Martha Reed, Jack Oliveira, Robert Ryan, Susan Oiestad, Lee Allaire  
Excused: Carol Burt, Joan Mello.

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FAIRHAVEN,  
MASS.

The meeting was legally posted on Wednesday July 6, 2022.

The meeting was called to order by Martha Reed at 9:05 am.

Jack Oliveira motioned to accept the June 2022 minutes, seconded by Robert Ryan.

Financial Report:

COA:

June 2022 Expenditures: \$19,931.36

FY22 Year End Expenditures: \$226,368.99

Martha reviewed FY22 budget, which ended with a \$6,800 surplus.

Old Business:

1. The Office Assistant position has been filled. Jocelyn Bowers transferred from the Board of Health to the COA. Cindy Vandenburg the former Office Assistant volunteered to provide the COA specific training to Jocelyn and spent two afternoons with her last week.
2. Election of Officers postponed to August, please see separate agenda item below.
3. MARTAP Mini grant that was applied for in June was approved and a complete set of tires for Van #5 will be purchased this month.

New Business:

1. Martha updated that the summer programs were starting up and that so far the response had been very positive and well attended. The Pen Pals program starts this week and so far 11 children have written letters. All Board Members present volunteered to participate in the program.
2. Martha announced that the Veteran's Service Office had officially moved into the COA and that the having both offices working out of one location was already yielding great results. Two COA clients were referred to the VSO for assistance and 3 VSO members were able to work with COA on getting SNAP applications submitted.

Election of Officers:

1. Martha suggested in light of 2 board members being absent at this meeting that the election of officers be tabled again until next month when all members are present. Motion to table election of officers made by Lee Allaire and second Jack Oliveira. Election of officers will take place at the August 2022 board meeting.

Director's Report

1. Personnel Changes: The Administrative Assistant position has been filled. Jocelyn Bowers from the Board of Health began on July 5, 2022. Cindy Vandenburg graciously volunteered to train Jocelyn on COA protocols, which has been very helpful. I would like to publically

acknowledge the over 50 hours Anne Sylvia volunteered to fill in during May and June to cover the admin duties.

2. Senior Center/Program Utilization June 2022: 453 unduplicated seniors utilized the COA last month. There were a total of over 1,150 "swipes." All available appointments for on-site foot care and the elder attorney were utilized in June. The demand for SHINE Counselor Appointments is still high.
3. Transportation Utilization: 170 Rides were provided to 68 seniors in May.
4. Community Needs: Last month's most significant community needs were housing and food security. Three CHAMP Applications and six new SNAP applications were submitted to DTA. In addition, 2 new clients were approved for the Commodity Supplemental Food Program (CSFP).
5. In-person events: Over 60 persons attend the Single Senior Supper Club on 6/21/22. DA Quinn spoke about seniors and scams, all attendees received information and a swag bag from the DA's office. The LGBTQ Senior Supper Club held its annual summer cookout on 6/22/22 with 25 persons in attendance. The Summer Music Series kicked off with Jordan Paiva and the New Bedford Symphony, with over 30 people in attendance for both events.
6. Memory Café: John Hinds from St. Mary's Church has graciously agreed to cover the cost of the meals for the first Memory Café in October.
7. Gardens: The Lion's Club Gardens are thriving and the first crop of radishes was harvested and distributed last week.
8. MARTap Grant: Our grant application for new tires for Van 5 was approved, the total cost to the COA will be under \$200.
9. Pen Pal's Program: The first batch of letters from the Wood's School have arrived. There are a total of 11 children participating, and the COA will match them up with our first batch of letters going back on 7/14/2022.

#### Next BOD Meeting

The next board meeting will take place on Monday, August , 2022 at 9:00am

Motion to adjourn made by Lee Allaire second by Jack Oliveira.

The meeting was adjourned 9:25 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Martha Reed

Executive Director