



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 October 11, 2022

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

- 1.) **The meeting was legally posted on Wednesday October 5, 2022**
- 2.) **The meeting was called to order by Martha Reed at 9:05 am.**
- 3.) **Lee Allaire motioned to accept the September 12, 2022 minutes, seconded by Carol Burt.**

Financial Report:

COA Budget total: \$199,944.00

July & August 2022 Expenditures: \$23,183.27

Martha Reed: \$4,960.00 has been amended under Building Repairs and it will be voted on at the upcoming Special Town meeting. Gasoline line item is being addressed Town wide.

Old Business:

1. **Fall & Winter Programs:** Calendar is filling up which is wonderful for the center.
2. **Memory Café Update:** Entertainment has been booked for the Memory Café by Rebecca Pink who will be singing October 27th at Noon and lunch is sponsored by St. Mary's.
3. **Social Day re-opening process:** Still in the process of meeting with Coastline for Social Day. Trying to get two aids to help as well as students from New Bedford Vocational. Looking to open in mid-November.

New Business:

1. **Veteran's Luncheon November 9, 2022:** All Trust Bank will sponsor the Veterans Luncheon. Thank you to All Trust Bank. Entertainment will be by the DeRossi's. The Lions Club is donating a new flag to the Veterans.
2. **PSA for Fairhaven TV:** Fairhaven TV will come and film a PSA on Medicare and Open Enrollment Options that will take place in November, once it is filmed it will be available on Fairhaven Public Access Channel. Also trying to plan more PSA's for the winter to keep seniors in the loop and up to date.
3. **Partnership with UMASS Medical SNAP Outreach Program:** An application has been submitted to partner with UMASS Medical to do SNAP outreach work. This is an opportunity to get reimbursed for the working being done here at the COA. It will be a few thousand dollars a year to help provide entertainment throughout the year. Hopeful the application will be approved and start in January.

Director's Report

1. **Senior Center/Program Utilization:**

566 unique individuals attended events at the Senior Center during the month of September. There were 1,559 "swipes" in September. All elder attorney and foot care appointments were utilized. The SHINE counselors were extremely busy, and all appointments for Open Enrollment are already fully booked for the month of October and November. Both counselors are extending their volunteer hours to accommodate the needs of our clients. Thank you to them for all of their hard work.

2. **Transportation Utilization:** 224 Rides were provided to 87 seniors in September. Vans have been full and it has been providing up to 12 people per day.

3. **Community Needs:** The most significant community needs in the last two months remain housing and food security. 4 SNAP Applications were submitted in September. SNAP benefits have increased due to cost of living.

4. **In-person events:** Both Single Senior Supper Clubs were well attended. The LGBTQ Senior Supper Club was attended by 15 persons and 60 persons attended the Single Senior Supper Club last month. The Summer Music Series concluded with a performance by Judy and Barry DeRossi. The COA also hosted the Culture Park Theater Group Uncommon Lunch, who presented 5 short plays. The plays were very well received and were also streamed live on Facebook.

5. **Memory Café:** The first Memory Café will take place on October 27, 2022, and singer Rebecca Pink will present a program featuring Broadway Show Tunes and classic songs.

6. **Social Day:** The process of re-opening Social Day is underway and it is anticipated that the re-opening will occur sometime in November.

7. **Fall and Winter Activities update:** Make-It Mondays are starting this month. The COA has partnered with a local Fairhaven business, King's Castle Designs, to offer a monthly low-cost craft activity. We have secured a donor for the Veteran's Appreciation Event on November 9, 2022. Plans to have a Thanksgiving Day Dinner here at the Senior Center, as well as a Holiday Party are in progress.

Next Board of Directors Meeting

The next board meeting will take place on Monday November 14, 2022

Motion to adjourn made by Lee Allaire second by Carol Burt.

The meeting was adjourned 9:20 AM

Respectfully Submitted,
Jocelyn Bowers
Principal Office Assistant
Fairhaven COA