



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 January 9, 2023

Present: Martha Reed, Joan Mello, Susan Oiestad, Carol Burt

Absent: Jack Oliveira, Lee Allaire & Robert Ryan

- 1.) The meeting was legally posted on January 4, 2023
- 2.) The meeting was called to order by Martha Reed at 9:11 am.
- 3.) Approval of the Minutes from November & December Meetings will be moved to the February Meeting.

Financial Report:

COA Budget total: \$199,944.00

November Expenditures: \$14,525.79

The Budge is running inline where it needs to be. Largest budget expense is Building Repair and Maintain ace. The Handicap door button was recently replaced.

Martha Reed spoke of Mr. Jack Oliveria who passed January 4, 2023. He was a dedicated member to the Board. Mr. Oliveira will be missed dearly.

Old Business:

1. UMASS Medical SNAP Outreach Program
 - a. The contract was signed and began January 1st.
2. Holiday Program Update
 - a. All of the Holiday events had positive feedback
3. Roof Replacement Update
 - a. The design of the roof has been done and will be out for bid soon.

New Business:

1. Social Day – Staff update and opening date: 1/31/23
 - a. Social Day will start January 31st. Sally Bourke and Anne Silvia have been hired. They will be picking up Social Day where they left off during the last closure. Currently have 28 people interested.

Director's Report

1. Senior Center/Program Utilization:
477 unduplicated persons attended events at the Senior Center in December for a total of 1,103 "swipes" for events last month. All SHINE appointments leading up to the Medicare Open Enrollment deadline (12/15/2022) were utilized. Both counselors are extending their volunteer hours to accommodate the community.
2. Transportation Utilization: 189 Rides were provided to 68 seniors in December.
3. Volunteers: 16 Persons volunteered over 320 hours at the Senior Center in December. The value of these volunteer hours is over \$11,000.
4. Community Needs: The most significant community needs remain housing and food security. 2 persons were assisted with housing applications and information; 6 seniors were helped with accessing SNAP benefits. It was just announced that the extra pandemic SNAP Benefits will end in March 2023. These extra pandemic benefits provided single senior households with a minimum of \$95 extra dollars each month for food. We will be reaching out to those elders in the community whom we have worked with on SNAP to make sure they are aware of this change and can be prepared for this reduction of benefits.
5. In-person events: The Senior Center hosted 3 separate holiday gatherings that were extremely well attended. The general holiday party held on 12/16 had 70 persons attend, the Senior Supper Club had 40, and the LGBTQ Supper Club had 20. We are grateful to several small businesses in our community that donated to these gatherings. These small businesses include Attorney Suzanne Seguin, Attorney Brandon Walecka, JoAnne Drabble Real Estate, Fairhaven Pharmacy, and J.H. Beaulieu Jr. Livestock & Produce Farms.
6. Social Day: Opening Day for Social Day is Tuesday, January 31st. We are pleased to announce that Sally Borque has accepted the job as Coordinator and Anne Silvia has accepted the job as the Activities Coordinator. We will be completing intakes for Social Day participants beginning this week.

Next Board of Directors Meeting

The next board meeting will take place on Monday February 13, 2023

The meeting was adjourned 9:18 AM

No motion to adjourn. No quorum.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jocelyn Bowers

Principal Office Assistant - Fairhaven COA