

Fairhaven Council on Aging  
Board Meeting Minutes  
June 14, 2021

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK

2021 JUL 14 A 11: 29

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

FAIRHAVEN,  
MASS.

The meeting was legally posted on Wednesday June 9, 2021

The meeting was called to order at 9:00am. Joan Mello motioned to have Carol Burt and Susan Oiestad as voting members for this meeting second by Jack Oliveira.

Joan Mello motioned to accept the minutes from the last meeting which was September 8, 2020 and Sue Oiestad second.

#### Financial Report:

COA:

May expenditures: \$13,843.91

YTD expenditures: \$161,272.18

Social Day (has not been in operation since March 16, 2020):

May Expenditures: \$141.37 (Comcast and Verizon)

Expenditures to Date: \$11,853.88 (includes benefits for Social Day staff who were furloughed and Verizon and Comcast from 7/1/2020-present))

August revenue: \$0

YTD Revenue: \$380.00

Motion made to accept the Financial Report made by Carol Burt and second by Joan Mello.

#### OLD BUSINESS:

The HVAC installation has been completed and HVAC is working well now.

The Greater Boston Food Bank continues to provide supplemental food to qualified seniors on a monthly basis. Custodian, Rich Walker, is in charge of the distribution of the food. There are 35 seniors presently enrolled.

There is approximately \$14,000.00 remaining in the Formula Grant. The reason for the remaining money is that the Formula grant is used to pay the wages of some COA staff and there has been less staff hours related to Covid. Another reason for the remaining funds is because the COA's were able to roll over any Funds from 2019 into 2020. We are awaiting word from the EOEA as to whether we will be able to roll over remaining funds again this year. The COA has made purchases for items from the Formula Grant (new outside bench, new freezer).

Awaiting word from DOT as to when the new van will arrive. The 20% that the COA was to be responsible for towards the cost has been waived by the DOT as they have received funding to cover the entire cost. This is a savings of \$14,000.00 to the COA.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

The COA has reopened as of June 1, 2021. There is signage stating that masks are required if not vaccinated. All activities with the exception of Social Day and Zumba have been reinstated with no social distancing. All covid sanitation remains in place. The congregational meal has resumed as well.

The COA is sponsoring a summer music series held on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of June, July, August and September. It will be held under the trees behind the senior center.

The COA is taking names for Farmers Market Coupons for those seniors who are 60y/o and older, who live in Fairhaven and who are income eligible. The COA receives 75 coupon booklets each containing \$25.00 worth of Farmers Market coupons that can be used at any of the local Farmers Markets. The coupons come from Coastline.

There will be 2 intergenerational events this summer.

A Pen Pal Program will take place between seniors from the Fairhaven COA and the kids at the summer program at Wood School. Kids and seniors will be matched up to correspond through writing letters and at the end of the summer, the COA will host a "Meet Your Pen Pal Ice Cream Party".

The Fairhaven Cultural Committee awarded the Fairhaven COA with a grant to be able to have a presentation from Sheryl Faye, actress and story writer. Her presentation will be about Sally Ride, astronaut and scientist. Sheryl's program is interactional. The presentation will take place in the gym of the Rec Center and will include seniors from the community and kids from the Kool Kids Program. This presentation was supposed to occur last July but was cancelled r/t covid.

#### Social Day Report

Possible re-opening of Supportive Social Day.

The Supportive Social Day program closed on March 16, 2020 with the closure of the COA. Since then, the staff has obtained other jobs and the majority of social day participants have either passed away, gone into LTC or have deteriorated physically and are no longer eligible for the program. To be able to open social day again, the program would have to reopen as a brand new program. The staffing would have to be reconfigured, then hired. The program would have to have at least 10 participants present on a daily basis to keep it running financially. The director of the COA believes it is doable and is working to rearrange and get everything in place. She is hoping to have it running again by mid July. The director stated that the Supportive Social Day Program is a much needed service and a very important part of the COA and will do everything possible to bring it back to the great program it once was.

#### Director's Report

Director's Report

6/14/2021

1. The COA opened its doors after 15 months of being closed. There are no social distancing requirements per the Gov., however, anyone who is not vaccinated is asked to wear a mask while in this building. There is signage at each door and reception counter reflecting such. The COA will not be asking about vaccination status. The decision on whether masks are required is left to each individual Town building. All activities held at the senior center, (including the congregational meal), prior to Covid have resumed with the exception of Supportive Social Day.

2. I'm working on the possibility of reopening the Supportive Social Day Program. Presently, there are no Social Day staff remaining. The Coordinator and the Activity director have obtained other jobs. Several of the Social Day participants have either passed away, gone into Long Term Care or have declined physically and require more assistance than the Social Day program can provide. The reopening process will be as though we are opening a brand new Social Day Program.
3. On the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of June, July, August and Sept, the COA will hold a music summer series. June and July 's entertainment will be Jordan Paiva. August and Sept. to be announced. Weather permitting, the event will be in the back yard near the Bocci Court. Atria Assisted Living has agreed to provide refreshments.
4. We are currently taking names of those wishing to receive Farmers Market coupons. Each will receive \$25.00 in coupons to spend at local Farmers Markets. The Fairhaven COA receives 75 coupons from Coastline.
5. The Fairhaven Council on Aging received a grant for FY20 from the Fairhaven Cultural Council to have a performance by Sheryl Faye/actress storywriter. This will be an intergenerational event including the kids from the Kool Kids Program. The presentation will be about astronaut/scientist Sally Ride on July 6th at 1:00pm.
6. The Fairhaven elementary schools have an after school program which also runs through the summer. The director contacted me about participating in an intergenerational program where the kids would be paired up with a senior as pen pals. In late August before the summer program ends, the COA will host a "Meet your Pen Pal" ice cream social.
7. We will have an estimated \$14,000.00 remaining in the Formula Grant on June 30, 2021. This is because \$4,000.00 was rolled over from FY20 to FY21. It has not been determined if the COA's will be allowed to roll over the remaining monies again this year.
8. I received word from the DOT that the Fairhaven COA will not have to provide the 20% (\$14,000) portion of the cost of the new van. The DOT received funding that will cover our portion of the cost. Yipee!.

The next meeting will take place on July 12, 2021

Motion to adjourn made by Joan Mello and second by Jack Oliveira.  
Meeting was adjourned at 10:00am.

Respectively Submitted,

Lee Allaire, Secretary

