

Fairhaven Council on Aging  
Board Meeting  
May 9, 2022

RECEIVED  
TOWN CLERK

2022 MAY 10 A 10: 51

Present: Martha Reed, Joan Mello, Jack Oliveira, Bob Ryan, Sue Oiestad, Lee Allaire.  
Absent: Carol Burt

FAIRHAVEN,  
MASS.

The meeting was legally posted on Wednesday, May 4, 2022.

The Meeting was called to order at 9:05am.

Joan Mello motioned to accept the April 2022 minutes second by Jack Oliveira.

#### FINANCIAL REPORT

##### COA:

April Expenditures: \$28,081.00

YTD Expenditures: \$189,237.38

Martha explained that the payroll line is significantly short of funds related to the fact that there were 3 retirement payouts for COA staff (Anne Silvia, Cynthia Vandenburg and Lucille Dauteuil). She stated that the selectmen approved \$21,000.00 to cover the deficit.

Motion to accept the financial report made by Jack Oliveira and second by Joan Mello.

#### OLD BUSINESS

1. Martha reported that the Senior Office Assistant position will be reposted in house at the Town Hall and if no interest, then advertised to the public. Anne Silvia's 60 day temporary Senior Office Assistant position will end on May 22, 2022. Martha reports someone from the Town Hall will help her if needed until someone is permanently hired.
2. Easter Dinner was delivered to 55 Fairhaven seniors and served to 45 seniors at the Fairhaven Senior Center on Easter Day thanks to a very generous donation from a Fairhaven couple who provided 100 Easter dinners from Mac's Soda Bar. Several volunteers came together on Easter morning to deliver the dinners and then serve to those at the center.
3. The Single Senior Supper Club returned on April 19<sup>th</sup> and was well attended. It will continue to meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday. Coastline provides the food and Eva Fey from the Residence at Cedar Dell Assisted Living provided the ice cream sundaes.

#### NEW BUSINESS

1. Two intergenerational projects will take place over the summer. The Pen Pal Project will resume in July with the kids from the Wood School CHAMPS summer program. Seniors will be matched with a youngster who will correspond throughout the summer writing back and forth weekly. A Meet Your Pen Pal Ice Cream Sundae party will be held at the end of the project in August. The other intergenerational project will take place during the summer with the seniors and the kids from the Kool Kids Program at the Rec Center. The group will get together to paint inspirational rocks to be placed where others can find them.
2. Two volunteers have returned to assist in the office of the COA.
3. The Summer Music Series will be held June, July, August and September. The cost of entertainment has increased somewhat. Martha requested that the allotment of \$100.00 a month for entertainment be increased to \$200.00 a month for the months of June, July, August and September. The money will come from the COA Gift Account. Lee Allaire

motioned to increase the allotment to \$200.00 for June, July, August and September second by Bob Ryan.

Board Meeting  
Director's Report  
April 11, 2022

1. Personnel Changes: Annette Dantoni's (Senior Office Assistant) last day was March 22, 2022. The job opening was posted internally, as required by the terms of the union contract. No applicants came forward. As noted in the prior report, the topic of whether or not this needs to be a full-time 35 hours per week position was discussed with Interim Town Administrator. Due to this being a union position, the ITA and now the new TA is looking into whether this is feasible under the terms of the current union contract. Until a decision is made, Anne Silvia has been hired as a temporary part-time person.
2. Senior Center/Program Utilization March 2022: 452 unduplicated seniors utilized the COA last month. There were a total of over 1,200 "swipes" for events. In March, all available appointments for foot care, elder attorney, and AARP tax preparers were utilized.
3. Community Needs: Although it is my first month, the most significant needs being expressed by the clients looking for services have been affordable housing and food insecurity. We have successfully enrolled 5 clients into the SNAP program to help with food insecurity. We have assisted those in need of housing to apply to open waiting lists in the area. We have not been able to locate any affordable market-rate units and have spoken with two realtors who said that affordable rentals are impossible to find at this time.
4. SRTA Van: Unfortunately, it was not feasible for the SRTA Van to be turned over to the COA. So Van #3 was returned to SRTA on March 25, 2022.
5. ARAW grant: ended on March 31, 2022. All Fairhaven COA clients were notified and have been assigned a new case manager directly from the ARAW. Future Fairhaven women that qualify for ARAW services will be referred directly to ARAW.
6. In-person events: Attendance and desire for in-person events continues to rise. The Single Senior Supper Club being held on 4/19/22 has over 45 persons already

registered. Many instructors have been contacting the COA about setting up programs for the summer, and we are working on building the summer calendar.

7. Coastline Board of Directors: The Coastline Board of Directors approved my appointment to their BOD to represent Fairhaven. I have already attended the orientation, and my first meeting will be on Thursday, 4/21/22. Unfortunately, this will conflict with the newly scheduled Director's Drop-In hour so we will shift the day to the third Friday of the Month from 10:30 to 11:30.

Respectfully submitted,

Martha Reed  
Executive Director

Martha explained that she will be on vacation during the next meeting and asked if the meeting could be changed from June 13, 2022 to June 6, 2022. The board agreed to hold the meeting on June 6<sup>th</sup>. Lee Allaire stated that she will be on vacation that week as well.

Next meeting will be held on June 6, 2022 at 9:00am.  
Motion to adjourn made by Lee Allaire and second by Joan Mello.  
Meeting was adjourned at 9:15.

Respectfully Submitted,

Anne Silvia  
Temporary Office Assistant