



## 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 March 12, 2024

**Present:** Martha Reed, Carol Burt, Susan Oistead, Terry Pereira & Jacqueline Kenworthy, Joan Mello, Robert Ryan

**Absent:** Lee Allaire

- 1) **The meeting was legally posted on Thursday March 8, 2024.**
- 2) **The meeting was called to order by Martha Reed at 9:05am**
- 3) **Meeting Minutes:**
  - a. Carol Burt made the motion to accept the minutes of the January 9, 2024 meeting, Jacqueline Kenworthy seconded. Vote passes.
- 4) **Financial Report:**

Martha Reed said the COA is on target to not overspend on the budget. The stove knobs have had to be repaired. First repair was complete and the cost was split between the COA and the Social Day Program.
- 5) **Old Business:**
  - a. **Hybrid Programming Grand Award Update:** All of the equipment was ordered. The COA is still looking to begin April 1st with live programming.
  - b. **AARP Tax Senior Tax Services:** All appointments have been booked. The second week was cancelled due to snow and they doubled up the following week to complete those who had their appointment cancelled due to the weather.
  - c. **Commonwealth of MA Executive Office of Elder Affairs Annual Report:** Nothing unexpected on the report.
  - d. **Town of Fairhaven Annual Report:** The annual report has been completed and submitted to the Town. 2023 shows the COA has completely opened back up since COVID.
- 6) **New Business**
  - a. **Easter Dinner at the Senior Center:** Roughly 35 people have signed up so far. This is a dinner that has been ongoing for about 7 years. It has had wonderful feedback. Donations will cover a majority of the cost, whatever is left will be expensed out of the gift account.
  - b. **AARP Safe Driving Course:** Coming in April. All day course with lunch provided. This course will possibly give 10% off on an auto policy.
  - c. **EOEA Supportive Social Day Expansion Grant:** FCOA Applied to expand Social Day. If we are awarded, Social Day could open up to 5 days. The grant will help strengthen the program.
  - d. **ARAW Grant Application:** COA has applied to help with operations. It will be general use funds for FY25. If the COA is awarded the grant then it will help with a part time outreach worker and the COA will not need to utilize funds from the Town.

## 7) Directors Report

### Senior Center/Program Utilization:

	January 2024	February 2024	Year to Date Total
Events	311	349	660
Unduplicated	467	467	720
Units of Service	2325	2164	4489
S.H.I.N.E. Appts	155	145	300
Daily Utilization Rate	83	90	86.5

AARP began preparing Senior Taxes in February and were able to complete 79 returns last month.

Transportation Utilization: January: 160 Rides to 56 Seniors; February: 144 Rides to 57 Seniors.

Volunteers: 22 volunteers provided over 800 hours of service at the COA in January and February, with a value of over \$24,800.

Community Needs: 6 Seniors were assisted with SNAP recertification and 2 new applications were submitted to DTA. 3 seniors were assisted with senior housing applications. 2 new households were assisted with CSFP services, and 7 New Fuel assistance applications were submitted to PACE.

In-person event highlights: Due to weather the January SSSC was cancelled, but the LGBTQ supper was held and had 34 members in attendance. In February we had 58 persons attend supper clubs. 111 Seniors participated in the congregate lunch program during January and February.

Social Day: Please see the attached reports from Sally Bourke. On January 8, 2024, The Executive Office of Elder Affairs announced a new grant opportunity to Expand Supportive Social Day Programs in Massachusetts. We submitted a proposal on February 14 to expand the program back to five days per week. Anne Silvia re-retired on February 29, 2024. Sally and I have restructured the program to adjust to the new situation. We are beyond grateful to Anne for everything she has done for both the COA and for Social Day.

Programming: We are working with the Fairhaven TV department to purchase the equipment funded by the Hybrid Programming Grant. We were notified the AARP will be providing free tax preparation for Seniors again on Tuesdays beginning in February and continuing until mid-April.

## 8) Social Day Coordinators Report:

Activities: Exercise, Moxie Mobility, Bingo/Jingo, Trivia, Current Events, Reminisce, Men's Group, Craft Corner Puzzle Group, Horse Race Game, Baking Group, Walking Group, Frisbee Toss, Left, Right, Center Game, Greedy Dice, Adult Coloring Pages, Penny Ante, Bunco, Sing along with "Suzie" Seated Basketball

**Entertainment this month:**

3/5/24- Entertainment with Joe Mac

3/7/24- Johnny Cash Show with Matt York

3/12/24- Pam Teitz- "The Singing Nurse"

3/14/24- St. Patrick's Brunch

3/28/24- Memory Café with entertainment by Tony & Pat

**Notes:**

3/24/24- Monthly Fire Drill

3/28/24- Easter Dinner with Ham, Cheese Potatoes, Glazed Carrots, and Strawberry cream cake for dessert!

**Upcoming Events:**

4/2/24- Learning the history of the "Oreo Cookie"

4/4/24 Red Sox Day! Movie "Field of Dreams"

4/11/24- "Italy Day"-

4/17/24- Super Bingo!

*\*Total Units Serviced for the month was 207 with a client average of 17*

**9) Other Business:**

- a. LGBTQ Southcoast Network has a chef who has been cooking for LGBTQ Supper Club. The food has been amazing. Single Senior Supper club is now back to its normal time of 4-6pm.
- b. Tech Cafe, is a student from Fairhaven High who comes in on Thursdays from 3-4pm to help any seniors with technology. The response has been great, 3-6 people ever week come in for help.

**10) Next Meeting :** April 9, 2024 at 9:00am

**11) Roll Call & Adjournment:** Martha Reed closed the meeting at 9:36am.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jocelyn Bowers  
Administrative Assistant - Fairhaven COA