



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 August 12, 2025

Present: Martha Reed, Carol Burt, Terry Percira, Susan Oistead, Joan Mello & Michael Hevey
Joyce Veilleux

- 1) **The meeting was legally posted on July 3, 2025**
- 2) **The meeting was called to order by Martha Reed at 9:06 am**
- 3) **Meeting Minutes from July 8, 2025:**
 - a. Sue O. made the motion to approve the minutes from July 8, 2025 meeting, Terry P. seconded, vote passed.
- 4) **Financial Report:** Budget was cut back in February/March. There was not a lot to cut back in the COA budget.
- 5) **Old Business:**
 - a. **End of Fiscal Year 25:** One small transfer from salaries to Heat, Light, and Power due to unexpected electricity bills due to lack of credits. Town Hall is working on the issue.
 - b. **July Programming Overview:** Great presentation from Cana Craft Cannabis and we will be repeating it in the Fall. Detective Duarte from the Providence Police Department came to do a presentation about safety and scams and he will be back in the Spring. The Wheel of Fortune event had over 40 people in attendance. Music Bingo brought in a great crowd as always and the single supper club had over 40 in attendance with the Comedy Cookout.
 - c. **Tile & Carpet Cleaning:** All the floors were stripped and waxed as well as the carpets have been shampooed. Everything came out wonderful. Programming was only stopped one day to be able to move around furniture.
- 6) **New Business**
 - a. **August Programming:** We have brought back coffee with a cop. Sgt. Janis Gurreiro had a well-received welcome back. Hearing clinics are continuing. Intergeneration Field Day is on August 20th and there will be a cook out, pajamas, games, ice cream truck and a movie. Every last Friday of the month is Music bingo.
 - b. **Helping Hands Grant for Van#4 Tires:** Applied to be granted 6 tires to replace on Van#4. They approved the COA for \$1000.00 towards new tires. Out of pocket for the COA will be roughly \$200.

7) Directors Report

Senior Center/Program Utilization:

	July 2025	Year to Date Total
Events	328	2,146
Unduplicated Persons	596	1,818
Units of Service	2,434	16,862
S.H.I.N.E. Appts	134 (93 unduplicated)	1265 (536 unduplicated)
Daily Utilization Rate	93.62	86.04

Transportation Utilization:

During the month of July 169 rides were provided to 74 unduplicated seniors.

Volunteer Contributions:

In July, 21 volunteers contributed over 560 hours of service, with an estimated value of \$19,000. We have 2 New SHINE Volunteers that have started at the COA. Julie Lizotte and Rick Marcotte.

Community Support:

- **SNAP Assistance:** In July, 3 households received assistance with Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) services, including eligibility screenings, recertifications, and document processing.
- **Housing Stability Services:** 3 households were supported with housing stability services, including assistance with eviction prevention, housing applications and document submissions.
- **Community Surplus Food Program:** 1 new household was enrolled in the Community Surplus Food Program and 2 household was disenrolled for a total of 54 households being served with monthly food boxes.
- **Fairhaven Community Outreach:** We are continuing to work with the Fairhaven PD Outreach team. We have weekly meetings/calls regarding elders in Fairhaven and are currently working with 4 households on various issues, including housing, mental health, and supportive phone calls.

In-Person Events:

The Council on Aging hosted a variety of well-attended events throughout July. Movie Mondays continue to draw steady participation, averaging over 20 attendees each week. We participated in the Fairhaven 4th of July Parade, 16 people attending the Cannabis Information Session, and 3 people attending the AARP Safe Driving Class. We also hosted a Senior Safety Presentation from Detective Duarte, a Fairhaven resident, who works for the Providence Police and consults with the FBI on elder scams. The Single Senior Supper Club held in July was a cookout with entertainment, which had over 20 participants. We hosted a live "Wheel of Fortune" game show event that had 60 persons in attendance. The COA continued to collaborate with the Huttleston Harbor Fest for the Dog Days of Summer event held on July 19th, the COA provided shuttle service and sponsored an intergenerational craft.

Social Day:

For details, please refer to the attached reports from Sally Bourke.

Upcoming Summer Activities:

- Coffee with a Cop: August 5th
- Summer Field Day with the Kool Kids Program: August 20th
- Golden Age Music Bingo-August 29th

Fall & Winter Programs

- CarFit Even-September 11th-Southcoast Trauma Center
- Tech Goes Home-Town Digital Equity Project-2 Sessions: September
- Thanksgiving Dinner
- La Salette Trip-December
- Holiday Party

Helping Hands Mini-Grant

The COA has been awarded \$1,000 to replace the tires on Van 4. This grant comes from the Mass Department of Transportation.

Other notes from the Director: Housing is becoming much harder to find and for public housing it is taking 3-5 years to get in. There is no affordable rent. COA has started partnering with the PD for outreach work to help elders in need.

8.)Social Day Coordinators Report:Activities:

Exercise, Moxie Mobility, Bingo/Jingo, Trivia, Current Events, Charades, Reminisce, Men's Group, Craft Corner, Puzzle Group, Horse Race Game, Baking Group, Walking Group, Frisbee Toss, Left, Right, Center Game, Adult Coloring Pages, Penny Ante, Bunco, Shut the Box, Seated Basketball, Words in a Word, Scrabble Group, Movie Monday, "You Be the Judge," "What would you Do?"

Entertainment this month:

- 7/3/25-Entertainment W/ Charlotte Silva
- 7/8/25-Entertainment W/ Joe Mac
- 7/10/25-Chair Yoga W/ Diane
- 7/17/25-Entertainment W/ Tony & Pat
- 7/22/25-Entertainment W/Dave Valerio
- 7/24/25-Live Game Show for Seniors
- 7/25/25-Musical Bingo W/ Eddie
- 7/29/25-Entertainment W/ The "Singing Nurse"-Pam Teitz

Notes: 7/4/25- Independence Day- Center will be CLOSED

Upcoming Events: 8/20/25 – Intergenerational Field Day & Pajama Party with the Fairhaven Rec. Dept.
Kool Kids Summer Program **Total Units Serviced for the month 278 with a client average of 13*

9.) Other Business: NA

10.) Next Meeting: Tuesday September 9, 2025 9:00am

11.) Roll Call & Adjournment: Sue O. made a motion to adjourn at 9:27am, Terry P. seconded, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jocelyn Bowers". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'J' and 'B'.

Jocelyn Bowers
Administrative Assistant - Fairhaven COA