



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 October 14, 2025

Present: Martha Reed, Carol Burt, Terry Pereira, Joyce Veilleux, Nancy Santoro, Michael Heavey & Susan Oiestead

Absent: Joan Mello

- 1) **The meeting was legally posted on** October 8, 2025
- 2) **The meeting was called to order by** Martha Reed at 9:00am
- 3) **Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. Joyce V. made the motion to approve the Minutes of the September 9, 2025 Meeting, Carol B. seconded. Vote passes.
- 4) **Financial Report:** Nothing terrible to report. A few van repairs but nothing major. Everything is running at regular spend down. The Heat, Light, and Power bill for credits is hopefully being resolved at this moment.
- 5) **Old Business**
 - a. **Programming:**
 - Car-fit Event 9/11: MOVED TO 10/30- Will be here from Southcoast Trauma to and individualized lookover to see if there are any other aides that will assist you.
 - Vaccine Clinic 9/18: Over 40 Vaccines- From Fairhaven Pharmacy, FLU COVID RSV AND SHINGLES. Open to the public. Second clinic is this week with SEMA, only Flu.
 - Tech Goes Home Session 1 9/8: Full Roster- 5-week training on an iPad with a certified instructor, at the end you keep the iPad. First class was full!
 - MS Support Group 9/16: - Hold their monthly meetings here at the COA.
 - Monthly SRTA Representative: RESCHEDULED to 10/3
 - Fall for All-Diverse Abilities Day 10/12: Went well minus the weather as a factor.
 - b. **Cultural Council Grants:** Working with three different persons to get new programs down to the COA.
- 6.) **New Business**
 - a. **TGH Bonus iPads** – Issue with the charging cords for the class. They sent us all new iPads along with new charging cords for the other iPads. The COA was instructed to keep the iPads and do more classes. Hoping to work with the housing authority to get some of their residents to be in the class.
 - b. **Mass Broadband Institute Award:** Was nominated, did not win but the event was last Wednesday at the Top of the Tower in Worcester. Will frame it later on.
 - c. **Thanksgiving Dinner:** Will use D&D Catering, planning on 50 dinners as done in the past. Open to any senior in Fairhaven that does not have anywhere to go on Thanksgiving.
 - d. **Parking Lot Repaving:** The lot is repaved, but needs to be striped. Grateful to the Acushnet COA for allowing us to move our Social Day program for the two days so we did not have to close the Social Day Program.

e. October/November Special Programming:

- **Coffee with a Cop 10/14-** Janis will be here to discuss Holiday Safety.
- **SEMA Flu Clinic 10/16** – See 5A
- **Car Fit 10/30** – See 5A
- **Veterans Day Parade 11/11:** We will be in the parade. After the Parade, ladies auxiliary will sponsor refreshments after.
- **Veterans Luncheon TBD:** Unknown, to be announced.
- **Nutrition Trivia and Options Counseling 11/18-** Will be here from coastline for a fun time together about nutrition and staying in your home.
- **Thanksgiving 11/27-** See 6C

7.) Directors Report-

Senior Center/Program Utilization:

	September 2025	Year to Date Total
Events	359	2,893
Unduplicated Persons	630	1,853
Units of Service	2,310	21,801
S.H.I.N.E. Appts	227 (171 unduplicated)	1,747 (696 unduplicated)
Daily Utilization Rate	84.41	86.52

Transportation Utilization

During the month of September 112 rides were provided to 37 seniors.

Volunteer Contributions

In August, 27 volunteers contributed over 600 hours of service, representing an estimated in-kind value of \$20,500.

September Program Services Summary

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Services

In September, 12 households received assistance with SNAP services. Support included eligibility screenings, recertification's, and document submittal.

Housing Stability Services

A total of nine households received housing stability support. Assistance included eviction prevention efforts, completion of housing applications, and submission of supporting documentation to promote long-term housing security.

Community Surplus Food Program

Two new households were enrolled and one was disenrolled from the Community Surplus Food Program. The program currently serves 55 active households, each receiving monthly food boxes to help supplement their nutrition needs.

Fairhaven Community Outreach

The COA continues its strong collaboration with the Fairhaven Police Department Outreach Team, participating in weekly case coordination meetings and follow-up calls addressing the needs of older adults. During September, outreach efforts supported four active cases involving challenges such as housing insecurity, mental health concerns, food access, and ongoing supportive communication.

Events & Engagement

In September, the Fairhaven COA continued to see strong participation across programs and activities. Both regular weekly Bingo and Golden Age Music Bingo drew enthusiastic crowds, with over 60 participants each week enjoying the fun, music, and camaraderie. Movie Mondays also continued to grow in popularity, consistently attracting 20 or more attendees each week. The CarFit event, originally scheduled for September, was rescheduled to October due to lack of sign-ups. Our first of two Flu and Vaccine Clinics was held last month and over 40 persons attended. The first of two Tech Goes Home free iPads and training sessions began, with 10 Seniors participating.

Social Day

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

Fall & Winter Programs

- Veteran's Day Parade and Luncheon
- CarFit Event October 30th-Southcoast Trauma Center
- Tech Goes Home-Town Digital Equity Project-Next Session: November
- Thanksgiving Dinner-D&D Catering
- La Salette Trip-December 3rd
- Holiday Party-TBD

Grants

National Council on Aging and AT&T Technology Skills and Confidence Grant

The Fairhaven COA applied as a Tier 3 Organization for \$4,500 through the National Council on Aging and AT&T's new funding initiative. This opportunity will provide tools, training, and resources to help older adults build confidence with everyday technology, from staying connected with family and friends to protecting themselves from online scams.

Cultural Council

We are collaborating with several local artists and organizations on grant opportunities that opened on September 1. These partnerships aim to support programming planned for Spring and Summer 2026. The grants close on October 16, with awards expected in January 2026.

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:

- 9/4/25-Entertainment W/ Dave Valerio
- 9/9/25-Entertainment W/Joe Mac
- 9/18/25-Charlotte Silva
- 9/25/25/-Entertainment W/ Tony & Pat
- 9/26/25- Musical Bingo W/ Eddie Freitas
- 9/30/25- "The Singing Nurse"-Pam Teitz

Notes: 9/1/25- Labor Day – C.O.A will be Closed

Upcoming Events: 10/9/2- Everything Orange Day, 10/14/25- Coffee with a Cop

**Total Units Serviced for the month 243 with a client average of 12*

9.) Other Business: None

10.) Next Meeting: Tuesday November 4, 2025 at 9:00am – Moved due to Veterans' Day.

11.) Roll Call & Adjournment: Carol B. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:19 am, Joyce V. Seconded, Vote passes.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Jocelyn Bowers". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Jocelyn Bowers
Administrative Assistant - Fairhaven COA