



Town of Fairhaven Council on Aging

Fairhaven Council on Aging • 229 Huttleston Ave, Fairhaven, MA 02719 Telephone 508.979.4029 • Fax 508.979.4116



Fairhaven Council on Aging • Board Meeting Minutes November 4, 2025

Present: Martha Reed, Terry Pereira, Joyce Veilleux, Michael Hevey & Susan Oiestad **Absent:** Joan Mello, Carol Burt & Nancy Santoro

- 1) The meeting was legally posted on October 30, 2025
- 2) The meeting was called to order by Martha Reed at 9:03am
- 3) Meeting Minutes:
 - a. Susan O. made the motion to approve the Minutes of the October 14, 2025 Meeting, Terry P. seconded. Vote passes.
- 4) Financial Report: Nothing exciting and everything is holding steady. Waiting on the bill from Gas for the vehicles that we will get soon. Mike had asked about how the Gift account is utilized and if the Town could access those funds. Martha explained this to Mike and said the funds are only utilized for the betterment of the seniors. The funds have been used to provide community meals, hire speakers, refreshments for movies, and it meant to help get those to come out and socialize. The funds are not spent on operations. Adaptive equipment has been purchased, medical equipment for those severely in need. Currently working with local partners who are doing food drives to help those in need as well as utilizing donations that are given specially to purchase food gift cards.
- 5) Old Business
 - a. Programming:
 - 1) Car Fit Event 10/30: Great event with Southcoast Trauma. To go over vehicle safety and to make you more comfortable driving. They had great suggestions for those who signed up and they were able to assist the participants with aided devices.
 - 2) Vaccine Clinic 10/16: Over 20 Vaccines
 - 3) Coffee with a Cop 10/14- 10 Participants
 - b. Parking Lot: Thankful to BPW to get this parking lot finished in less than a month. Only had to cancel two day of programming, but fortunate that Acushnet COA was able to take in our Social Day group for those days.
 - c. November Special Programming:
 - 1) Veteran's Day Parade 11/11/25: The Van will be in the parade, please arrive at the center for 8:00am if you would like to come ride with us.
 - 2) Veteran's Luncheon 11/10/25: Sponsored by AllTrust Credit Union.
 - 3) Nutrition Trivia and Options Counseling 11/18/25
 - 4) Thanksgiving 11/27/25: Being catered by D&D Catering beginning at 11am.
- 6.) New Business
 - a. Holiday Parties:
 - 1) Single Supper Club 12/16/25:
 - 2) LGBTQ Supper Club 12/17/2025:
 - 3) Annual COA-Holiday Music Bingo 12/19/25:

- **b.** LaSalette Trip 12/3/2025- 3:30pm Departure from the COA: S35pp. Family style dinner of Meat pie/Turkey and dessert. Using a school bus this year.
- c. Open Enrollment: Ends December 7th, fully booked.
- d. Tech Goes Home 2nd Session: Began yesterday (Monday)
- e. Veterans Outreach Event- Thursday 11/13/25
- f. Holiday Closures: 11/11/25- Veteran's Day; Closing at 3:30pm on 11/26/25
- g. 11/27/25 & 11/28/25- Thanksgiving
- 7.) Directors Report- Early in the month, numbers may not be accurate as it is still early and our person who enters the data is here only two times a week. Will be updated in December, if the numbers are drastic, Martha will let the board know. Would also like to thank all the SHINE Counselors including our two new ones, Julie and Rick who have been amazing. Greater Boston Food Bank will be a week later on November 18th. There will be some extra food that will be in addition to 55 boxes to be distributed to the community.

Fairhaven Council on Aging Board Meeting Director's Report-November 4, 2025

Senior Center/Program Utilization:

	October 2025	Year to Date Total
Events	348	3,241
Unduplicated Persons	655	1,973
Units of Service	2,323	24,124
S.H.I.N.E. Appts	226 (182 unduplicated)	1,975 (764 unduplicated)
Daily Utilization Rate	80.17	86.03

Transportation Utilization

In October, 162 rides were provided to 55 seniors, supporting access to essential appointments, shopping, and social programs.

Volunteer Contributions

A total of 18 volunteers contributed over 420 hours of service, representing an estimated in-kind value of \$15,000. Volunteer support remains vital to daily operations and program delivery.

Program Services Summary

Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP):

12 households received SNAP assistance, including eligibility screenings, recertifications, and documentation submission.

Housing Stability Services:

5 households received support with eviction prevention efforts, housing applications, and submission of required paperwork to promote long-term stability.

Community Surplus Food Program:

One household was newly enrolled and one disenrolled in October. The program continues to serve 55 active households with monthly food boxes.

Fairhaven Community Outreach Partnership:

Collaboration with the Fairhaven Police Department Outreach Team continues through weekly case coordination and follow-ups with older adults facing challenges such as housing insecurity, mental health needs, food access, and ongoing wellness checks. Four active cases were supported in October.

Events & Engagement

- Weekly Bingo and Golden Age Music Bingo continued to draw over 60 participants each week.
- Movie Mondays averaged 20 or more attendees.
- A CarFit safety event was held, providing individualized vehicle-fit assessments for six older adults.
- A second Flu Clinic, sponsored by SEMA Health Collaborative, provided vaccines to 15 individuals.
- Our first Tech Goes Home free iPad training cohort graduated eight participants, with a second session beginning this week.

Social Day Program

Please refer to attached reports from Sally Bourkc. Sally will be out on medical leave through the end of December; however, continuity of care remains strong with the new Activities Coordinator and new Aide supporting the program.

Fail & Winter Program Highlights

- Veteran's Day Parade & Luncheon
- Tech Goes Home Town Digital Equity Project (next session underway)
- Thanksgiving Dinner D&D Catering
- La Salette Trip December 3
- Holiday Party December 19

Grants & Funding

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

The COA has applied as a Tier 3 organization for \$4,500 to support technology confidence building for older adults. Award announcements are pending.

COA Kitchen Renovations:

The COA has been awarded a \$25,000 earmark from Representative Mark Silvia for kitchen renovations. This funding will improve functionality, enhance safety, and better support food service and community programming. We are grateful for Representative Silvia's continued support of Fairhaven seniors.

8.) Social Day Coordinators Report:

Activities:

 Exercisc, Moxic 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:

- 11/4/25- Entertainment W/ Dave Valerio
- 11/13/25- Entertainment W/ Judy & Barry
- 11/20/25-Entertainment W/ Tony & Pat
- 11/25/25/-Entertainment W/ "The Singing Nurse" Pam Teitze

Notes: 11/11/25- Veterans Day – C.O.A will be Closed 11/27 and 11/28 Thanksgiving – C.O.A will be Closed

Upcoming Events: 11/20/25- Thanksgiving Dinner

*Total Units Serviced for the month $\underline{0}$ with a client average of 0

9.) Other Business: None

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

11.) Roll Call & Adjournment: Sue O. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:27 am, Seconded by Joyce V., Vote passes.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jocelyn Bowers

Asp. Frank

Administrative Assistant - Fairhaven COA