



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 May 12, 2026

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

Absent: Joan Mello

The meeting was legally posted on Thursday Friday May 8, 2026

- 1) **The meeting was called to order by** Martha Reed at 9:02am
- 2) **Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. Nancy S. made the motion to approve the Minutes of the April 14, 2026 Meeting, Michael H. seconded. Vote passes.
- 3) **Financial Report:** On track. Currently working on applying for a grant for “Senior Center Modernization” and “Outreach”.
- 4) **Old Business**
 - a. **Kitchen Renovation Update:** Currently working with the Towns Facilities Director- still receiving bids for the Kitchen Renovation. The last contractor was in on May 11th.
 - b. **Spring Programs:** We will have Elder Law Course coming up from Mass Bar.
 - c. **Upcoming Events- Summer Programming:** See 6A.
 - d. **New Van:** There are hopes that the new van will arrive in July.
 - e. **Memorial Day Parade:** The van will be in the parade, if anyone would like to ride the van please call.
 - f. **Memorial Day Cookout- May 22, 2026:** Persons can call and sign up. Coastline Elderly will be serving.
- 6.) **New Business**
 - a. **Summer Programming:** Working on Summer Programming at the moment. Working on Intergenerational Day with Recreation Department, looking forward toward more crafting as well as Older Adult technology classes that will include more on scams, fraud, AI and more.
 - b. **Capital Needs Approvals for FY26:** All capital needs were voted and passed. We will be receiving new ceiling tiles, as well as tables and chairs.
- 7.) **Directors Report-** Discussion ensued between Martha and Michael about Volunteer Hours. Martha explained how volunteer hours can be used when applying for Grants.

Senior Center/Program Utilization:

	March 2026	Year to Date Total
Events	346	857
Unduplicated Persons	716	1,003
Units of Service	2,586	5,904
S.H.I.N.E. Appts	262 (155 unduplicated)	613 (294 unduplicated)
Daily Utilization Rate	83.42	70.3

Transportation Utilization

During the month of March, 52 seniors utilized our transportation program, receiving a total of 179 rides to medical appointments, grocery stores, and community programs

Volunteer Contributions

In March, 24 volunteers contributed more than 520 hours of service, representing an estimated in-kind value of approximately \$19,500. Their continued dedication and support play a vital role in helping the Council on Aging provide programs, services, and meaningful support to the community.

Program Services Summary**Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)& Emergency Food/Gift Cards:**

In March, staff assisted 9 households with SNAP applications, screenings, recertification's, and related paperwork. Additionally, 55 households received emergency grocery gift cards through the monthly Greater Boston Food Bank Program.

Housing Stability Services

In March, staff assisted five households with eviction prevention efforts, housing applications, and referrals to appropriate housing resources.

Community Surplus Food Program

55 households received food assistance in March through the Greater Boston Food Bank's CSFP program.

Fairhaven Community Outreach Partnership

In March, two active cases continued to receive support and one new case was opened through this partnership. Services included outreach, resource navigation, and ongoing follow-up to help

address individual needs and support safety and stability. One individual was also approved for the Bristol County Continuum of Care Supportive Housing waiting list.

Social Day Program

Please refer to the attached reports from Sally Bourke for additional details.

Grants & Funding

The annual Massachusetts Councils on Aging Service Incentive Grant competition for Field Demonstration Projects has opened, and the COA is planning to apply for funding under the Outreach and Senior Center Modernization categories.

COA Kitchen Renovations

The COA is continuing to work with the Town's Facilities Director on the kitchen renovation project. We are currently reviewing the bids received for the project and anticipate placing the order this week, with construction expected to begin soon thereafter.

8.) Social Day Coordinators Report:

Activities:

- Daily Seated Exercise/ Weekly Chair Zumba, 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," Weekly Virtual Field Trips

Entertainment this month:

- 4/7/26- Entertainment W/ Rick F.
- 4/9/26- Entertainment W/ Matt York
- 4/21/26-Entertainment W/Charlotte Silvia
- 4/23/26-Entertainment - W/Tony & Pat
- 4/28/26- Entertainment W/Judy & Barry DeRossi

Notes: The C.O.A. was closed on Monday 4/20/26 for Patriots Day.

Upcoming Events: - In May:

**Total Units Serviced for the month of April 240 with a client average of 12*

9.) Other Business: None.

10.) Next Meeting: June 9, 2026 at 9:00am

11.) Roll Call & Adjournment: Joyce V. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:16 am. Carol B. Seconded, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jocelyn Bowers

Administrative Assistant - Fairhaven COA