



**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
July 14, 2026

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

Absent: Joan Mello (No longer on the board)

The meeting was legally posted on Thursday July 9, 2026

- 1) **The meeting was called to order by Martha Reed at 9:06am**
- 2) **Board Reorganization:**
 - a. **Chair:** Joyce V. nominated Carol B. to be the Chair, Michael H. seconded, passes.
 - b. **Vice Chair:** Susan O. nominated herself to be the Vice Chair, Michael H. seconded, passes.
 - c. **Clerk:** Joyce V. nominated herself to be the clerk, Michael H. seconded, passes.
- 3) **Meeting Minutes:**
 - a. Carol B. made the motion to approve the Minutes of the June 9, 2026 Meeting, Nancy S. seconded. Vote passes.
- 4) **Financial Report:** No questions on Year end finances.
- 5) **Old Business**
 - a. **Kitchen Renovation Update:** Everything is on order, project should be completed by the end of August.
 - b. **Upcoming Events & Summer Programming:** There will be a game show coming up shortly and we will also be having our End of Summer Cookout on Sept.4th.
 - c. **New Van:** No news on the new van as of now.
 - d. **Fourth of July Parade:** Our van was in the parade, a few rode, all went well.
 - e. **FY27 MCOA Field Demonstration Grants:** Notified that we received 2 out of the 3 grants. We will receive the Modernization Grant as well as the Outreach Grant.
- 6.) **New Business**
 - a. **End of Summer & Fall Programming:** Currently in the process of discussing Fall programming.
 - b. **Senior Center Dining Room & Upgrades:** Currently picking out the finishes for tables and chairs. We will be ordering once all the quotes are in. Looking into new ceiling tiles as well for the center. Renovation/Updates will be done by the New Year.

**7.) Directors Report-
Senior Center/Program Utilization:**

	May 2026	Year to Date Total
Events	331	1,549
Unduplicated Persons	631	1,364
Units of Service	2,441	10,854
S.H.I.N.E. Appts	155 (98 unduplicated)	938 (404 unduplicated)
Daily Utilization Rate	96.68	79.74

Transportation Utilization

During the month of May, 49 older adults used the Fairhaven Council on Aging's transportation program, receiving 183 rides to medical appointments, grocery stores, pharmacies, and community programs.

Volunteer Contributions

In May, 30 volunteers contributed more than 490 hours of service, providing an estimated in-kind value of \$18,500. Their time and dedication continue to make a tremendous difference in supporting the Council on Aging's programs and services.

Program Services Summary

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

In May, staff assisted 12 households with SNAP applications, screenings, recertifications, and related paperwork. An additional 55 households received grocery assistance through the monthly Greater Boston Food Bank distribution program.

Housing Stability Services

In May, staff assisted four households with housing-related needs, including housing applications, eviction prevention, ongoing housing case management, and referrals to community resources.

Fairhaven Community Outreach Partnership

May, no new outreach cases were received due to the retirement of one of the Outreach Officers and the lack of formal funding for the program. However, staff continues to work closely with

our contact at the Fairhaven Police Department to address referrals, coordinate services, and provide support to individuals with identified needs.

Social Day Program

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

Grants & Funding

The Council on Aging was notified last week by the Massachusetts Councils on Aging (MCOA) that both its **Senior Center Modernization Grant** (\$14,962) and **Outreach Grant** (\$11,326) applications through the Service Incentive Grant (SIG) Field Demonstration Project were fully approved. The Outreach Grant will support a part-time case manager position to expand housing and benefits assistance, while the Senior Center Modernization Grant will fund improvements to enhance the center's facilities and visitor experience. Unfortunately, the COA's application for \$7,400 in Supportive Social Day respite scholarships was not selected for funding.

COA Kitchen Renovations

The Council on Aging kitchen renovation project continues to move forward. The contractor is ready to begin, and we are currently waiting for the new cabinets to arrive. The tables and chairs approved through the FY27 Capital Improvement Plan will be ordered next week, as staff are finalizing colors and finishes this week.

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:

- 6/2/26- Entertainment W/ Mike Dardic
- 6/4/26- Entertainment W/ Judy & Barry
- 6/9/26-Entertainment W/ Rick Ferreira
- 6/18/26 Entertainment W/ Charlotte Silva
- 6/23/26 Entertainment W/ Rebecca Pink
- 6/25/26-Entertainment - W/ Tony & Pat

Every Thursday, participants enjoy **Chair Zumba with Audra**, a fun and engaging exercise program that promotes movement, fitness, and social interaction.

Notes:

The C.O.A. was closed on Fridat, June 19 2026, in observance of Juneteenth.

Upcoming Events / Highlights:

June Celebrations: The Social Day Program celebrated Father's Day with raffle gifts, coffee cups filled with treats, and delicious cupcakes for dessert. Participants enjoyed a festive and memorable day honoring fathers.

**Total Units Serviced for the month of June 227 with a client average of 11*

9.) Other Business: None

10.) Next Meeting: July 14, 2026 at 9:00am

11.) Roll Call & Adjournment: Susan O. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 am. Joyce V. Seconded, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jocelyn Bowers
Administrative Assistant - Fairhaven COA