



## 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 September 8, 2026

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

**Absent:** Joan Mello & Terry Pereira (No longer on the board)

**The meeting was legally posted on Thursday September 3, 2026**

- 1) **The meeting was called to order by** Martha Reed at 9:02am
- 2) **Meeting Minutes:**
  - a. Carol B. made the motion to approve the Minutes of the July 14, 2026 Meeting, Michael H. seconded. Vote passes.
- 3) **Financial Report:** Everything is as expected. Kitchen renovations were completed without going to the Town for any additional funds. Because the project was over 10k, we had to have multiple bids, many were very expensive. George Pavao from CEI did the project and was very meticulous.
- 4) **Old Business**
  - a. **End of Summer & Fall Programming:** Intergenerational Day was a success and all the Children as well as the seniors participated in a craft together and celebrated the day with Ice Cream.
  - b. **Kitchen, Dining Room & Upgrades:** Working estimates on ceiling tiles as well as tables and chairs.
  - c. **New Van:** Will be on the road in the next few weeks. It arrived at the end of August.
  - d. **FY27 MCOA Field Demonstration Grants:** Received two grants, we will be repainting the lobby and updating furniture under the grants. Outreach Grant job posting has been posted online.
- 6.) **New Business**
  - a. **Veterans Day Luncheon** – November 10, 2026
  - b. **Thanksgiving Dinner:** Will have Thanksgiving at the COA Thanksgiving Day.
  - c. **Fall & Winter Programming:** Currently Martha and Jocelyn are working on the Fall and Winter Programming.

**7.) Directors Report-** Kitchen Construction may alter the numbers for August due to a longer shutdown than anticipated.

**Fairhaven Council on Aging  
Board Meeting  
Director's Report-September 8, 2026**

**Senior Center/Program Utilization:**

|                        | June 2026              | Year to Date Total       |
|------------------------|------------------------|--------------------------|
| Events                 | 350                    | 1,908                    |
| Unduplicated Persons   | 579                    | 1,459                    |
| Units of Service       | 2,320                  | 13,174                   |
| S.H.I.N.E. Appts       | 147 (103 unduplicated) | 1,085 (456 unduplicated) |
| Daily Utilization Rate | 105.5                  | 83.33                    |

|                        | July 2026             | Year to Date Total       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Events                 | 393                   | 2,301                    |
| Unduplicated Persons   | 591                   | 1,587                    |
| Units of Service       | 2,368                 | 15,542                   |
| S.H.I.N.E. Appts       | 121 (88 unduplicated) | 1,206 (505 unduplicated) |
| Daily Utilization Rate | 91.08                 | 84.42                    |

**Transportation Utilization**

During the months of June and July, the Fairhaven Council on Aging continued to provide essential transportation services to older adults in the community. In June, 52 individuals utilized the transportation program, receiving a total of 168 rides. In July, 43 individuals utilized the program, receiving a total of 162 rides. Combined, the COA provided 330 rides during the two-month period, helping older adults access medical appointments, grocery stores, pharmacies, and community programs.

**Volunteer Contributions**

Our volunteers continue to be an important part of everything we do at the Fairhaven Council on Aging. In June, 28 volunteers gave more than 500 hours of their time, valued at \$18,890. In July, 31 volunteers contributed more than 530 hours, valued at approximately \$20,000. Together, that's more than 1,030 volunteer hours valued at nearly \$38,900 in just two months. We are incredibly grateful for the time and energy our volunteers give to support our programs and the older adults in our community.

**Program Services Summary**

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

In June, staff assisted 5 households with SNAP applications, screenings, recertifications, and related paperwork. In July, staff assisted 10 households with SNAP services. In addition, 55 households received

grocery assistance through the monthly Greater Boston Food Bank distribution program in each month, helping local older adults and households with ongoing food needs.

### **Housing Stability Services**

In June, staff assisted 4 households with housing-related needs, and in July, that number increased to 6 households. Assistance included housing applications, eviction prevention, ongoing housing case management, and referrals to community resources.

### **Fairhaven Community Outreach Partnership**

In June, no new outreach cases were received. In July, staff began working with one new household through the outreach program. 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**

During June and July, staff began working on the projects funded through the recently awarded MCOA Service Incentive Grant (SIG) Field Demonstration Project. This included moving forward with the Senior Center Modernization Grant (\$14,962) and Outreach Grant (\$11,326), which will support improvements to the center and expanded outreach and case management services. No additional grant funding was awarded or received during this reporting period.

### **COA Kitchen Renovations**

The Council on Aging kitchen renovation has been completed, and we officially returned to business as usual on September 1st. The new kitchen is fully operational, and regular programming and meal services have resumed. We are now working on the procurement of new tables, chairs, and ceiling tiles to complete the remaining updates to the center.

## **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:

- 7/3/26 Entertainment W/ Gary Farias
- 7/7/26 Entertainment W/ Joe Mac
- 7/14/26 Entertainment W/ Dave Valerio
- 7/16/26 Live Game Show: Jeopardy, Concentration & Fill in the Blank
- 7/23/26-Entertainment - W/ Tony & Pat
- 7/28/26 Entertainment W/ Pam Teitze

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 Friday July 3, 2026, in observance of Independence Day

Upcoming Events / Highlights:

July Celebrations: Social Day participants celebrated the Fourth of July with a festive party featuring entertainment by Gary Faris. Everyone enjoyed singing along to patriotic songs, creating a fun and spirited celebration.

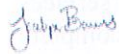
*\*Total Units Serviced for the month of July 256 with a client average of 11*

**9.) Other Business:** None

**10.) Next Meeting:** October 13, 2026 at 9:00am

**11.) Roll Call & Adjournment:** Nancy S. made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 915: am. Steven S. Seconded, meeting adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Jocelyn Bowers  
Administrative Assistant - Fairhaven COA