

**Town of Somers
Advisory Committee for Seniors
Meeting Minutes
September 8, 2026
Senior Center**

Present: Pat Bachetti, Samantha Charette, Matthew Cox, Eileen Fedorowich, Marilyn Gaskell, Phyllis Gwilliam, Ailene Henry, John Kelleher, Donna Richardson

Absent:, Joan Sizer

Guests: Gloria Coles, Gail Tishler. All members and guests introduced themselves.

Call to order at 1:00 p.m. by chairperson Matthew.

Approval of Minutes of August 18: Eileen moved and Pat seconded a motion to approve the minutes as presented. There was no discussion. Motion carried.

Donna reported for the Senior Center: Because of budget cuts, the Senior Center is closed on Fridays and closes at 3:00 p.m. on other days. This is especially hard for bus scheduling. Chair aerobics will be held at Kibbe Fuller on Fridays. Donna would like to continue the book club even though Alison, from the library, is no longer available as leader. Eileen passed a petition for all to sign to keep the Center open until 4:00 p.m. The Somers Historical Committee has a coloring book, *Somers CT, Our History* available at the Senior Center for \$5.00. Samantha reported that the Holiday Festival will be held 4:00 to 6:30 p.m. on the first Saturday of December.

- **See attached Human Services report presented by Matthew**

There will be no long-term case management and many counselling services will be done by out-of-town individuals and agencies.

Gloria suggested that the probate court could be a resource for family help.

There was a discussion about town budget cuts and a suggestion by Matthew that each town department publicize information about what they do so town officials and town residents know what each department needs and why.

We discussed the possibility of committee members contacting the Board of Selectmen and the Board of Finance to ask for reinstatement of Senior Center hours in next year's budget.

Matthew asked committee members to think about what experience and attributes we would like to see in a new committee member. From this he will create a job description and start a search for a new member.

Adjournment: With no further business, Pat moved, and Marilyn seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:10 p.m. There was no discussion and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted

Ailene Henry, Secretary

Minutes not official until approved at subsequent meeting.