

**Town of Somers
Advisory Committee for Seniors
MEETING MINUTES
September 10, 2024**

Present: Pat Bachetti, Matthew Cox, Marilyn Gaskell, Phyllis Gwilliam, Ailene Henry, John Kelleher, Annette Ramsdell, Donna Richardson, Tina Toohey

Absent: Eileen Fedorowich, Maureen Parsell, Joan Sizer

Audience: Tim Welch

Call to order at 1:05 p.m. by chairperson Matthew Cox.

Introduction: Matthew introduced Annette Ramsdell, the new Social and Senior Services Specialist. Annette was welcomed by the committee.

Approval of minutes of last meeting 06 11 24: Approved as written. Tina moved to approve the minutes as presented; Pat seconded the motion. There being no discussion, the motion carried.

Correspondence: none

Old Business: Donna presented the new Dial-A-Ride Passenger Handbook for approval. Suggestions: Correct spelling of "aide". Add information about pickups for the residents of the cottages near #75 Woodcrest. Maureen will take the finished handbook to the Selectmen for approval.

New Business:

Senior Center Update: Donna

Stats: Fiscal year 2023 – 442 active members, 142 new members / Fiscal year 2024 - 463 active members, 133 new members

Donna reported on programs for October and announced that a Covid and flu vaccine clinic Oct. 28 at Senior Center. She also reported that a New Years Eve dinner/dance Dec. 31, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Joanna's Restaurant. Last, because of a leak in the refrigerator, there was damage to the kitchen floor, cabinets and counters. Insurance will pay for the replacement of these. The Senior Center will not be closed during the repair. Appliances will eventually be replaced.

Social and Senior Services Update: Matthew

- Reported on social services programs available. Many people are calling with needs. Thinking of providing classes – financial coaching/planning.
- Scarecrow Festival October 19: Some of proceeds are given for Social Services programs. Organized by Kara Wolters. Discussed how to advertise the need for volunteer help.
- Back-to-School program went well with 51 recipients of school supplies.
- Planning for the Season of Giving is underway.
- MOW: 11 active clients. CRT is taking no new clients at present. There is a waiting list.

Ailene asked if MOW clients could be provided with the reflective address markers that CERT provides to town residents. Donna has applications. Matthew will check on this.

Adjournment: 2:00 p.m. Tina moved to adjourn the meeting; Marilyn seconded the motion. There being no discussion the motion carried.

Next meeting: October 8, 2024, 1:00 p.m. Senior Center

Respectfully submitted:

Ailene Henry, Secretary