

**Town of Somers  
Advisory Committee for Seniors  
November 8, 2022**

**Present:** Pat Bachetti, Steve Getman, Phyllis Gwilliam, Ailene Henry, Allison Maynard, Donna Richardson, Joan Sizer, Tina Toohey

**Absent:** Bev Guimond, Carol Sarrantonio,

1. **Call to order** at 1:32 p.m. by chairperson Allison Maynard.
2. **Approval of 10/11/22 Minutes:** Ailene moved and Pat seconded the motion that the minutes of the 10/11/22 meeting be approved as written.
3. **Audience:** Tim Keeney (Somers First Selectman), Maureen Parsell, Alexis Morin (Bay Path occ. therapy), Pat Jerome
4. **Correspondence:** Letter from Eileen Fedorowich expressing interest in being a member of the Advisory Committee. Discussion about how new committee members are chosen. Allison as committee chair will make a recommendation to the Board of Selectmen who then will approve new members. Eileen would possibly replace Carol Sarrantonio as Woodcrest representative. Bev Guimond, as representative of the Senior Club, may be resigning. Donna will check with Bev and then will check with Dan Fraro, chair of the Senior Club, about a replacement for Bev.
5. **Old Business:** Steve reported on the Aya Po committee recommendations. Tim Keeney thanked Steve and the committee for their good work.
6. **New Business:**
  - A. Mr. Keeney spoke about the proposed new Community Center. A committee has been formed who have visited the new Windham CT Community Center and made recommendations. Plans for a referendum in May 2023. A bond package would be needed for financing. Discussion about a commercial vs a catering kitchen.
  - B. **Social Services:** MOW: 11 clients at present. 1 new volunteer. CRT has asked that we track volunteer hours.  
There have been many calls for energy assistance.  
The Season of Giving campaign is underway. The town emergency fund will probably be used to supplement the energy assistance program.  
Family sign up for the holiday toy program has begun.  
The Town of Somers Resource List will be in the Dec. Senior Center newsletter.
  - C. **Senior Center:** Donna reported that the Senior Center is starting a volunteer group to assist with various activities. A notice will be in the Dec. newsletter. She plans to begin a Somers history program and asked for input for this. She will contact Carol Pyne, Somers Historian.  
Christmas and New Years plans are underway.  
Joan expressed a concern that several new Senior Center programs, especially exercise programs, have a fee that may discourage people from participation.

Maureen and Donna said that a punch card program will be started so that people only pay for the days that they participate. Possibly streaming exercise classes will be offered for free. Both Allison and Maureen stated that there are town funds available for financial help if needed.

Maureen reported on recreation activities – Holiday Festival, Dec. 10, 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., Gingerbread House competition, wreath giveaway/decoration program.

7. **Committee Updates:**

8. **Adjournment:** 2:55 p.m. Tina moved Steve seconded

Next meeting December 13, 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Ailene Henry acting secretary

Minutes not official until approved at subsequent meeting.