

**Town of Somers**  
**Advisory Committee for Seniors**  
**February 14, 2023**

**Present:** Pat Bachetti, Eileen Fedorovich, Marilyn Gaskell, Steve Getman, Phyllis Gwilliam, Ailene Henry, Allison Maynard, Donna Richardson,

**Absent:** Joan Sizer

1. **Call to order** at 1:37 p.m. by chairperson Allison Maynard.
2. **Approval of 01/10/23 Minutes:** Steve moved and Pat seconded the motion that the minutes of the 01/10/23 meeting be approved as written.
3. **Audience:** Christina Hurdle, John Kelleher, Maureen Parsell,
4. **Correspondence:** none
5. **Old Business:** Steve asked about CPR training for seniors. This will take place March 8<sup>th</sup> at the Senior Center, taught by Somers Fire Dept. It will include basic CPR information and the Heimlich maneuver but will not be for certification
6. **New Business:**
  - A. **New members:** Allison welcomed new committee members Eileen Fedorovich, Woodcrest rep and Marilyn Gaskell, Senior Club rep.
  - B. **Social Services:** Allison has resigned, last day Feb. 16. Her replacement, Matthew Cox, will begin on Feb. 16 and will shadow Allison for a day. All expressed best wishes to Allison in her new position. Matthew will be the Somers Municipal Agent for the Elderly and will chair the Advisory Committee.

MOW: 17 clients at present. A new rule in place that new MOW clients must sign up for a minimum of 30 days. This is more fair to Christina and CRT because of the time consuming paper work involved to start a new client.

Christina will be planning an appreciation day for volunteers

Energy assistance applications are slowing down but an uptick is expected in the next month.

Operation Fuel is another option for people seeking assistance.
  - C. **Senior Center:** Donna reported that the AARP tax appointments are almost filled up. Several new programs include a Senior learning program Tuesdays at 2:00 p.m.; Home helpers trivia once a month; Emily DeNucci, flutist, on March 17; maybe haircuts once or twice a month. All programs listed in the Senior monthly newsletter.

We discussed liability involved with recommending hair care or foot care at home. Decided that this type of resource could be added to the Social Services resource list without a problem.

Springfield College occupational therapy dep't has offered one on one home visits. Donna will follow up with this.

63 new members have enrolled at the Senior Center since July 1, 2022. Approximately 25 people per day take part in Senior Center activities.

Maureen reported a plan for activities for youth and seniors to take place at the Senior Center the week of April 10, school vacation.

Outdoor pickleball will resume in March, weather permitting. A permanent pickleball net will be installed at the Field Road park.

The State of CT has received 10 million dollars from the federal gov't to be shared with every Senior Center in the state. Somers will receive \$28,000. This can be spent on facility

improvement and/or programming with expanded staff hours to support it. Maureen asked for ideas on how to use this money.

Allison reported that there will be a Tolland County Resource Fair in Vernon the last Saturday of October. Somers will participate.

7. **Committee Updates:**

8. **Adjournment:** 2:30 p.m. Pat moved Marilyn seconded

Next meeting March 14 2023, 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Ailene Henry secretary

Minutes not official until approved at subsequent meeting.