

**The Council on Aging  
Meeting Minutes  
November 17, 2022**

**Present** – Cheryl Moreci, chair, Carole Mullen, director, Dan Malloy, secretary, Charles Duczakowski, Dave Guglielmi, Julia Manning, Eileen Milaszewski, Arlene Williams.

**The meeting was called to order at 1 PM.**

**Minutes** – Minutes for the October meeting were accepted.

**Financial ledger** – All budget lines are positive at this time.

**Services** – The numbers for SMOC (fuel assistance) were 86 duplicated and 48 unduplicated. Nancy has been quite busy helping people apply, and the director has assisted also. As for transportation, although we have just a small number of people using it, those who are, are very dependent on it. There have been daily calls for assistance from SHINE now that it is open enrollment season.

**Nurse program** – Starting in January, the nurse home visitation program will begin with a few people (one or two each week) selected who it appears would benefit from visits by our nurse, Mary Watson. It will be opened up to more in late January and into February.

**Workshop** – A falls prevention workshop will be held on December 7.

**Party** – The holiday party will be held at the senior center on December 15. The dinner will be catered by Oliva's.

**Dinner** – There will be a turkey dinner at the senior center on November 22. It appears that there will be an attendance of about 40.

**Van** – The January newsletter will list dates and times when the van will be available for rides. Michael Coliani has done his first transit and it went very well. He will be receiving training in the use of the GPS Ranger system. Until then, information will be recorded manually.

**Sub-committee for planning** – The director encouraged the committee to form a sub-committee to plan on where the department should be going in the next three to five years. She suggested beginning in January with a brainstorming session. Charlie has experience as a discussion facilitator, and volunteered to do that when the group meets. It was decided to hold the meeting on January 12 at one o'clock.

**Budget** – If the town will totally compensate the outreach position, that would free-up the formula grant funds for other items. The grant is from the state. The amount is determined by multiplying the town's elder population (60 and older) by \$12. That population for Hopedale in the 2010 census was 1120. The 2020 numbers are finally in, and for Hopedale it is 1590. That means that our increase in formula grant money is now about \$5600 more than it was in the past. Julia asked when the town would make a decision on funding the outreach position.

Carole replied that it would first have to be proposed in the budget discussions early in 2023, and there won't be a decision on it before May.

**Flu clinic** – The flu clinic was quite successful. The director thanked Dave and Cheryl for their assistance with it. The clinic was run by Central Pharmacy in Milford, and Carole reported that they were wonderful to work with. Holding the clinics this way saves the town several thousand dollars compared to what it would be if done through the Board of Health, which would have to be done through their contract with the VNA.

**Holiday Wishes** – An organization called Holiday Wishes, which grants fundamental wishes to people in need contacted the director. She has reached out to about 20 people that she felt could use it. Most have declined but a few will benefit by it.

**Grandfriends** - The grandfriends program at Bright Beginnings has been working very well.

**Veterans Day** – Dave thanked Carole for her excellent work in organizing the Veterans Day program. She praised the Community House for their part in it, including paying for the signs that were put on the lawn.

**Next meeting** – The next meeting of the committee will be held at one o'clock on January 12.

**Adjournment** – The meeting was adjourned at 1:45.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Malloy, secretary

11/17/2022