

The Council on Aging Meeting Minutes

October 26, 2023

Present at meeting – Carole Mullen, department director, Cheryl Moreci, chair, Dan Malloy, secretary, Dave Guglielmi, Charles Duczakowski, Arlene Williams. Absent - Karen Kuligowski, Bob Casali, Julia Manning. Eileen Milaszewski

The meeting was called to order at 1:07 PM.

August minutes – The minutes were accepted with the addition of Dave Guglielmi's name being added to the list of those present at the meeting.

Service statistics – The highest numbers for September through October were for real estate taxes and SMOC. SMOC is the agency which handles fuel assistance. The recertification that normally happens in August didn't happen this year, due to internal administrative issues that have been going on in SMOC. Carole has been dealing with the situation to the extent that is possible from our end.

Transportation – A total of 79 rides had been provided in the past month to just seven people. The director mentioned that while the availability of rides was very important to those people, the board would at some point have to decide if that service was the best use of the funds we have available.

November – Activities for November will include a Veterans Day program on the 9th, and a turkey dinner on the 21st.

Budget – Carole said that she and Cheryl should meet with Town Administrator Mitch Ruscitti sometime soon to discuss several items that the CoA will be asking for in the next budget. As it stands now, the town budget doesn't cover all of our outreach worker salary, or fees for instructors. About \$13,000 has been rolled over from the formula grant funds from last year. We will be getting another \$20,000. Next year we won't have the extra \$13,000 that we have now, and we can expect to have some difficult budget decisions to make. One of the decisions will be how many hours we want our outreach person to work.

Goals – Carole suggested that in addition to the transition plan that has been under discussion, the board should set some goals. She said that they can be straight-forward and simple, but they should include a sense of where we're going.

Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 2:00. P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Daniel Malloy, Secretary