RECEIVED
SEP 11 2026
11:27am
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE
BLOOMFIELD, CT

Minutes of the Commission on Aging Monthly Meeting
September 2, 2026

Attendees: Vice-Chair Robert Berman, Halesteen Graham Days, Marie MacDonald, Chair Patricia Miller, E. Leon Rivers, Jeanette Rivers, Kay Sherman, Shirley Thompson, Peter Wilcox

Guests: Luz Cora-Small (Senior Services Liaison), Lori Myers (Senior Services)

The meeting was called to order at 12:31 pm.

Old Business

Spring Fling Happy Hour Plus occurred on June 4 at the Senior Center. Residents 55+ enjoyed dancing, appetizers, refreshments, games and door prizes as well as live music provided by DJ Ramon.

A Paint Night Party occurred on Friday, June 12 in partnership with Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services Department.

The Senior Services Department traveled to Martha's Vineyard on July 23 and Block Island on August 13 for day trips.

New Business

UR Community Cares is offering additional Techie Time technical support sessions September 2026 through May 2027. The Senior Services Department sponsors these sessions but have also received a grant to subsidize some sessions. Technical support is provided through one-on-one sessions and group sessions.

The 19th Annual Senior Expo will occur on September 15 from 10:00 am – 12:00 pm. Volunteers are needed for the COA table. Kay Sherman, Halesteen Graham Days and Maris Macdonald volunteered to sit at the COA table to distribute eyeglass repairs kits as well as light-up magnifying glasses.

A Paint Night Party will occur in partnership with Parks, Recreation and Leisure Services on Friday, September 25 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm.

Early Voting will occur starting October 19 until November 1. These dates will not interfere with daytime instructional classes at the Senior Center.

Budget Update – Town Manager would like to begin the budget process at the end of September. All the directors' positions at 330 Park Avenue were eliminated within the current budget. As of now, the plan is that India Rodgers will be overseeing all three departments at 330 Park Avenue.

Luz announced that there are two drivers retiring at the end of October and one Full-Time driver will be moving to a part-time position. Due to this there will be no weekend trips offered so that there is time to hire additional full-time drivers. The goal is that all other services remain the same throughout the transitional period.

The Senior Services Department will be doing a Turkey distribution again this year in November. This event usually takes place one week before Thanksgiving. Lori will be reaching out to Dog Star Rescue to see what they are able to donate this year as they were a large contributor to last year's distribution.

Public Comments

A question was posed by Halesteen Graham Days on how the Commission on Aging can become more visible. Some suggestions were made that the members can volunteer at programs that the Senior Services department offers such as Happy Hour Plus. Some ides that were brought up were that the COA could host a table at the summer concert series, adopt a family during the holiday season, have a box near the entrance for toy donations, sponsor the Friday lunch held at the Senior Center, donate undergarments to the Senior Services department or have an event to Fill a Mini-Bus with donations.

The COA would like to continue to visit more senior housing developments in October and November. Bob Berman will reach out to Federation Homes to see if they are available to have the COA come in October.

A conversation about whether lunch should be offered at each COA meeting was discussed. Some options presented were to only have food offered when visiting the senior housing developments. Another option was to move the meeting time to 1:00 pm so that the meeting isn't held during lunchtime.

The minutes for the June 2026 meetings were approved, with a motion by Robert Berman and seconded by Shirley Thompson.

Peter Wilcox made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Shirley Thompson. The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 pm.

The next meeting will be held at 12:30 p.m. on October 7, 2026, at 330 Park Avenue.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Sherman and Lori Myers