

**Director's Report submitted by
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- We are now beginning the month of February. I am out on medical leave once again for my forth major joint replacement. This surgery did not go as well as my last so recovery it taking a bit longer than planned. I have been working from home since day one to keep this department running smoothly and with continued quality. My staff and volunteers have once again stepped up and continue to keep this department shining.
- The first item which I needed to take care of was an unexpected resignation from Ericka Trinke. She excepted a position within our town with the Ayer Police Department. This position will allow her more hours, more money and room to grow within our town. This is a positive move for Ericka however it was totally unexpected to me! And being out on medical made it even more stressful for me. However with the guidance and help from the Town Managers office and Kevin Johnston I was able to put things into place to get the position posted in house in a timely fashion.
- There were 8 companies which applied for the Feasibility Study Project which is working towards a new home for the Ayer COA. I had to read through all 8 proposals and narrow it down to three for interviews. I have never had this type of experience before and it was very educating. In the end when I had completed my reading I was excited to see that the members of my committee and I were all on the same page as far as the top three. The interviews were then set up and conducted. The final process is in motion.
- The much needed facelift which was schedule for mid March is on the back burner for the moment. The Department of Correction will do this work for us for free but I felt with the change in my staff, me being out on medical, still and a number of other issues, disrupting the Center to close it down was not in the current game plan and this timing was not a good one. I will revisit this closer to the month of May.
- Once again Thank you Tiny's and Markoh's for taking such good care of us on our dining out evenings!!!
- All monthly bills paid on time.
- All monthly reports written and submitted on time.
- Unable to attend monthly meetings.
- All of my responsibilities as the COA Director have been fulfilled.

- We had our yearly inspection from the Nashoba Boards of Health. It was a very detailed inspection and for the most part the COA Cafe came out with high marks EXCEPT for one major issue. We can NO LONGER cook home cooked meals at The Center. This came as a huge SHOCK to me and my staff because we have been running a successful program for over two years. However the State of MA and DPH have instituted new regulations over the past months as far as serving food is concerned. We at the Ayer COA DO NOT meet these requirements at all. We never have!!! We do not have the industrial equipment needed, we do not have the closed cooking space needed, we do not have anything which the State of MA and DPH NOW require in order to offer home cooked meals. What this means: we are only allowed to serve food which is prepared in an industrial kitchen and brought to us!!! So we will only be offering MOC meals 5 days a week at The Center. This is VERY disappointing to EVERYONE but we must follow the state rules!!!! We have no choice!!! This is why we must have a NEW CENTER!!! Sooner than later. With this change I have seen a drop in our numbers which saddens me but there is nothing we can do about the home cooked meals. We cannot afford to be shut down completely PEOPLE DEPEND on US for FOOD!! So we will continue to do the very best we can with what we have and always smile!! We can however still offer our parties, dinners, suppers, breakfasts and pizza party seeing they are coming from an industrial kitchen.
- Our FREE AARP Tax program is in full swing at this time. Many folks are so grateful for this wonderful program. We are one of the only COA's that is able to continue to offer this to our 60+ers. All Ayer residents come first!!
- Keep your eye on our month Newsletter, Action Unlimited and Cable TV as well as our Town Website for all of our coming events and activities. We are beginning to plan our spring events and activities. We are looking at different, NEW activities for our afternoon programming. We try to offer whatever folks are looking for, sometimes we are successful and other time we are not. However we are willing to try anything people are interested in doing. So bring us your thoughts and ideas.....remember we are here for you!!