

Council on Aging (COA) Director's Report for January 2022

Ayer Senior Center / Council on Aging

2.11.22

Kitchen/Meals:

After the costs rose to \$112K, the Town Manager recommended that the Capital Planning Committee not pursue the COA request to renovate the existing kitchen. The Town Manager expressed his support and that of the Selectboard to recommend funds in the operational budget for a meal program within the existing permit constraints. The Director will be compiling a list of meals that can be made with one-day permits and revise the proposed budget to reflect that.

Budget:

The first public budget forum was held on 1/26, where the Town Manager mentioned our requested Nutrition Coordinator as part of the explanation of the budget increases for the town as a whole. The rest of our requested changes were included as well, though the Budget was not discussed department by department. The next public budget forum will be held on 3/16.

My Senior Center reporting statistics for January 2022:

- Seniors In Attendance (unduplicated): 70
- Total Event Sign-Ins (duplicated): 289. This number reflects that some seniors came once; some 8 times.
- Total Programming Hours: 430.5

**These statistics do not count the approximately 25 Meals on Wheels clients & 48 van riders.

New Building:

The Building Committee met again on 2/2. Highlights include: Review of the COA meeting with Abacus, The Town Manager met with Mass Development and identified several parcels to consider for purchase, land transfer, or lease. Harvard's RFP process (to determine if there was additional land potentially available) was discussed.

Opportunities to Volunteer or Senior Tax Workoff:

- Receptionists: 3 hours shifts to answer phones, roll silverware, set tables, etc
- Exercise Instructor
- Data Entry
- Meals on Wheels Drivers
- Social Media Manager
- Assistance with Annual Town Report

Transportation: No updates

Newsletter: No updates

Publicity & Outreach: No updates