Director's Report - February 2022 Ayer Senior Center / Council on Aging

Staffing: The Outreach Coordinator and Social Worker positions remain posted. Having Kevin Johnston onboard part time has been very helpful, as has Ashley as an intern. The Center was closed for two days 1/23 & 24 for staff training.

Budget:

The Director met with the Town Manager & Finance Manager to discuss the FY'24 budget.

Programs:

My Senior Center reporting statistics for January 2023:

- Seniors In Attendance (unduplicated): 59
- Total Event Sign-Ins (duplicated): 387
- Total Person-Programming Hours: 440

**These statistics do not count the approximately 25 Meals on Wheels clients & 65 van riders.

In January, special programs included attending Bach's Lunch at the new Groton Hill Music Center, a cozy pajama party luncheon, a speaker about homecare options, and a modern art class and lecture. Our trip to Nashoba Tech lunch got snowed out.

Outreach

AARP will offer free tax return preparation again this year; many March appointments are still available. Fuel Assistance appointments continue to be in high demand. After a break from the hectic open enrollment schedule, monthly SHINE appointments will resume in February and the first Monday of the month thereafter. SNAP (Food stamps), ACP (reduced-cost internet), and senior housing application appointments are ongoing.

Meals

In January, 227 meals were served to 40 people, across 18 meals (3 MOC, 13 catered, 2 meal trips). Monday and Friday MOC meals are not well attended. Attendance is growing at Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday catered meals, with Thursday meals and free meals reaching capacity.

Volunteers & Donations

In January, 8 volunteers worked a total of 134 hours, valued at \$1,903.57. The Senior Center could not run efficiently without their assistance, and we are very appreciative of their time. Many thanks to Shop & Save for their Monday baked goods donations, and to Friends of the Nashoba Valley Medical Center for their recent \$500 donation.

Site Selection Update:

The Site Selection Committee's work is concluding and anticipates making a recommendation to the Select Board in early March.

Transportation: No Updates

Volunteer Opportunities: The Lucia's delivery meal will be Friday 2/24 – delivery people are needed. Lunch volunteers are always appreciated.