

Director's Report - March 2022

Ayer Senior Center / Council on Aging

Staffing: The Outreach Coordinator and Social Worker positions remain vacant and posted. The new clerical union matrices are finalized, so the Director will be reaching out to past candidates and the postings will be updated to reflect the new rate. Having Kevin Johnston onboard part time has been very helpful, as has Ashley as an intern. The new office furniture has been delivered, so there's space for everyone.

Budget:

Spending is on track for this fiscal year. The Director is working with the staff to determine priorities for any excess funds.

Programs:

My Senior Center reporting statistics for February 2023:

- Seniors In Attendance (unduplicated): 138
- Total Event Sign-Ins (duplicated): 558
- Total Person-Programming Hours: 714

*These statistics do not count the approx 25 Meals on Wheels clients & the 76 van riders in Feb.

In February, special programs included a Valentine's Day luncheon and day of beauty, COA Van trips to O'Neil Cinemas, Nashoba Tech luncheon, and Hanover Theatre in Worcester to see the musical Annie. Arts & Crafts special programs included needle felted penguins and a cardinal canvas art project.

Outreach

AARP Tax Prep, Fuel Assistance, SHINE, SNAP (Food stamps), Lifeline (reduced cost phone), ACP (reduced-cost internet), and senior housing application appointments are ongoing.

Meals

Despite a holiday and two snow days in the short month of February, 302 meals were served to 102 people, across 14 meals (1 MOC, 11 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. The delivery meal on 2/24 with Lucia's was very popular – we delivered 87 meals!

Volunteers & Donations

In January, 4 volunteers worked a total of 52 hours, valued at \$741. 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.

Site Selection Update:

The Site Selection Committee's work is concluding and anticipates making a recommendation to the Select Board at their 3/27 meeting.

Transportation: The COA van service is reaching capacity. Towards the end of the month we began collecting statistics on full routes and unmet need. For the partial month: On 1 day, the manifest was full, and on 0 days there were riders turned away due to being beyond capacity.

Volunteer Opportunities: In March it would be great to have COA Board volunteers at the Senior Center Update meeting on 3/15 and the St Patrick's Day luncheon on 3/16. Volunteers, please remember to log your hours in MySeniorCenter (upper left hand corner of the login kiosk).