

Director's Report – October 2023

Ayer Senior Center / Council on Aging

Budget:

Spending is on track for the year.

Account	Label	Budget	YTD Expended	Available Budget	Percent Used (10/10/23)
51000	COA Salaries	74,291	17,144	57,146	23%
51100	COA Wages	71,513	14,301	57,211	20%
52000	Services	19,220	3,427	15,792	18%
54000	Supplies	43,650	9,913	33,736	23%
57000	Programs	12,800	5,566	7,233	44%
		221,474	57,128	164,345	25.8%

Programs:

My Senior Center reporting statistics for September 2023:

- Seniors In Attendance (unduplicated): 102
- Total Event Sign-Ins (duplicated): 715
- Total Person-Programming Hours: 925

*These statistics do not count the approx. 25 Meals on Wheels clients & the 70 van riders in August.

In September, special programs included: visits to local farmer's markets, Hampton Beach Seafood Festival, Downsizing seminar, Gentle Flow Yoga demonstration, a talk on preventative health called Plant the Seeds Now to Live More Actively in Your 70s, 80s, 90s, Flu Clinic, Rotary Chicken BBQ deliveries, and a special luncheon with live music at Pleasant Park, a lovely town asset. For the third time, our NARA Park concert was rained out (refunds were issued).

Outreach

Staff provided outreach services to 20 seniors a total of 39 times in August. Almost half of these interactions centered on housing issues, with the remaining services provided being varied, including advocacy work, disability benefits, family assistance, financial management skills, assistance with food security, general information, health benefits counseling, meals on wheels enrollment, mental health or other health services, transportation counseling, unemployment benefits, and more. Scores of additional simple referrals are made each month without official documentation as well.

Meals

In August, 380 meals were served to 65 people, across 21 meals (4 MOC, 18 catered and 1 supper club). The meals program very popular, with 5 meals filled to capacity, and the remaining meals nearly full.

Volunteers & Donations

In August, 10 volunteers worked a total of 129 hours, valued at \$1,833. 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, Barbara Gibbons for her weekly desserts, Shaw's Floral Dept for their donation to the centerpieces for the luncheon at Pleasant Park, Wag & Wash of Littleton for their donation of some items for the Senior Center table at the Devens Dog Festival, and to Pinard's Florist for arranging and wrapping the gift baskets for the Dog Festival.

Site Selection / Building Committee Update:

At their 9/5/23 meeting, the Select Board appointed a new Senior Center Site Selection & Building Committee and authorized \$60,000 in ARPA funding for site selection, preliminary schematic design, and architectural fees.

Transportation: Statistics not yet available.

COA Board Opportunities: Assist with Senior Center booths at Newton St Festival (10/7) and Devens Dog Festival (10/28), Reserve a COA informational table at Fall Town Meeting.