

**Town of Somers
Advisory Committee for Seniors
MEETING MINUTES
April 8, 2025, 1pm to 2pm**

Present: Tina Toohey, Pat Bachetti, Ailene Henry, John Kelleher, Maureen Parsell, Annette Ramsdell, Donna Richardson, Eileen Fedorowich, Joan Sizer, Marilyn Gaskill, and Matthew Cox

Absent: Phyllis Gwilliam, John Kelleher

Guest: Gloria Coles

Call to Order at 1:05 p.m. by chairperson Matthew Cox, who also welcomed today's returning guest, Gloria Coles.

Approval of minutes of March 11, 2025: Tina moved, and Ailene seconded the motion to approve the March 11th meeting minutes. After discussion, the motion carried. Marilyn Gaskell agreed to take minutes in May and June; Alene agreed to do some starting again in September.

New Business:

Senior Center Update: Donna and Maureen

- Senior Center kitchen renovations are complete, and the new space is working well.
- Starting April 15th, a community volunteer will provide support to Senior Center staff as interviewing continues for a permanent employee.
- A variety of upcoming events and opportunities were noted, including the Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon on April 25th, a Mother's Day Luncheon on May 9th, and the Summer Barbeque on June 13th.
- Donna noted that from approximately May 12 to June 30 the Senior Center building would be closed to programming in order to get a new interior paint job. Most programs will continue at Kibbe Fuller, 619 Main St. She will share scheduling updates as they are received.
- Maureen asked for volunteers to serve on the Building Committee and reported that the new Bingo machine is a great success. She also shared information about a special program at Anytime Fitness for free gym memberships for those who qualify for Medicare or Medicaid.

Social and Senior Services Update: Annette

- Energy Assistance through Access Agency continues through June 17th and will then close until September.
- Renters' Rebate opened on April 1 and will continue until September 30. She and Matthew will host multiple application sessions at Woodcrest beginning April 9. Applicants can also schedule appointments at the human services office.
- Referrals to Meals on Wheels are very slow – an issue experienced by programs across the state.
- Annette began CHOICES Medicare counseling training, to be completed in early May.
- Several high-need senior referrals have come in from the police department and significant efforts have been made to engage and connect seniors with needed services and support.

Adjournment: Tina moved, and Pat seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:25pm. There was no discussion, and the motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Matthew Cox, Chair

Next meeting: May 13, 1:00 p.m. Senior Center