



**TOWN OF SHREWSBURY**  
**Council on Aging**  
Shrewsbury Senior Center  
98 Maple Avenue, Shrewsbury, Massachusetts 01545-5398

**Council on Aging Board Meeting Minutes**  
**February 9, 2022**

**Members in attendance:** Shashi Menon, Louise Russell, Betsy Zuegg, Jean Campaniello, Judy Goodstein

**Staff in attendance:** Hollie Lucht, Christine Moriarty, Renee D'Argento

The meeting was recorded by Krista Fogg of Shrewsbury Media Connection

1. The February meeting was called to order at 9:00am.
2. Motion to accept January, 2022 minutes carried.
3. Review and Act on Financial Reports
  - a. Account totals reviewed
    - i. Note: Taxi Livery grant funds not received yet; therefore, \$7,000 has been requested to get through the end of March.
    - ii. Question on cost of reflective vests- cost is shared with the Police Department. Vests given to anyone who wants one.
    - iii. Question of "reclassification"- explained that these are misplaced charges to incorrect accounts, and this is the corrective action.
4. Director's Report
  - a. Outreach Coordinator report:
    - i. Fuel Assistance and Share the Warmth applications are being accepted, but there is a long backlog by SMOC, which processes the applications.
    - ii. Energy audits are free and available. Information is in the Newsletter.
    - iii. Heat a Senior Program-to generate donations for emergency fuel assistance.
    - iv. Emergency Response Form has been developed- with the information, Police and Fire Departments can more easily gain entrance into residences in an emergency. Chief of Police is reviewing and will approve the form prior to distribution.
    - v. New SYFS partnership to provide outreach to seniors in town. The new coordinator from SYFS will be at the Senior Center on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month between 9:00 and 12:30. This will expand our services and outreach.
    - vi. Internship program being developed. Student intern gets college credit for participation. College partner should provide criteria for student participation.
    - vii. Survey Outreach mailer- will be sent to seniors this spring. Discussion.

- b. YAHOO vote- This is a vote of support for the development of the program, which will be a long process. Discussion. Motion to support; motion carried unanimously.
  - c. SHINE- a state-run program with training provided by the state. Senior Center staff are educating themselves about SHINE. Enhanced training of staff is taking place. There is one SHINE counselor for 6 hours a month at the Senior Center.
  - d. COVID update- Senior Center reopening to full hours on 2/14/22. Van bookings will open as well, allowing more than one person per ride. Still no congregate dining yet. Town Manager will direct the re-opening next steps to be consistent with all town agencies.
  - e. Heat a Senior Program- This will follow the Feed a Senior guidelines to generate funds for seniors in need of fuel assistance. It supports the emergency fuel assistance program. While waiting for approval from SMOC, seniors in need can get an additional 75 gallons of fuel to supplement the emergency oil delivery.
  - f. Programs-
    - i. St. Patrick's Day meals- discussion. 50 meals to be distributed on a first come, first served basis for Shrewsbury seniors as a pick-up meal. Announcement will be in March newsletter. Dean Park Pizza would provide the meals. COA Board supports this initiative.
    - ii. 23<sup>rd</sup> Anniversary celebration: suggestion to move celebration to September during the annual town-wide Spirit of Shrewsbury celebration.
  - g. Transportation
    - i. COA FY'22 trips July to December- 2,488 trips; 1158 to Shrewsbury Housing Authority
    - ii. Starting 2/14, more riders can go on the vans.
    - iii. COA Staff awarded a Mass. DOT grant of \$28,000 to begin on July 1. This is for our COA vans, not the WRTA vans. Congratulations to the staff!
    - iv. Issues with RouteMatch have been resolved
    - v. Special mention to Cynthia Willis who works tirelessly to coordinate transportation activities! Thanks, Cynthia!
5. New Business
- a. Upcoming events: 2/14/22- Friends Valentine's Bingo; 2/28- Friends' Musical Ventriloquist
6. Meeting adjourned 10:31am