

Franklin Council of Aging

Amended Minutes February 25, 2026 Franklin Senior Center

Members Present: Lyn O'Brien (Chair), Phyllis Malcolm (Vice Chair), Faith Flaherty (Secretary), Kit Brady, Beth Sawyer, Kim Muchow, Roberta Trahan, Tina Powderly via audio :
Excused—Jim Lane

Also Present: Sarah Amaral (Director), **Chasity** Cheng (Deputy Director) via zoom,

Called to Order: 11:01 AM

Minutes of January 16, 2026

Amendments: Lyn O'Brien was excused, not absent. The Beatles were misspelled.

Approved

Motion: Kim Mu-Chow

Second: Roberta Trahan

Citizen's Comments:

None

Correspondence:

Testimonial from Mr. & Mrs. Long commending the work of the Senior Center and the Supportive Day program.

Director's Report:

- The Town Administrator put out his budget. The Town meeting of February 11, 2026 had some feisty moments over it.
 1. No cuts in FY 27
 2. Free cash not sustainable
 3. Mixed acceptance
- The Director is sending FINCOM our budget.
 1. GATRA \$ 37,000 There are some issues with our Supportive Day clients to be discussed.
 2. Senior Center supports the bus for ALL citizens.
- Capital request for Fire System to be approved.
- Facilities brought in new gym equipment. Signs giving directions to be installed.
- Custodial Meeting:
 1. Conversation overdue
 2. Cleaning schedule

- New appliances coming:
 1. Convection oven.
 2. New freezer over due.
 3. Water heater (replaced by capital funds).
 4. Tables needed for cafe. Quotes and other ideas coming.
- Events:
 1. Monthly Party on March 13. Franklin Fire Dept. serving corn beef and cabbage.
 2. Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon March 17.
 3. Eat Around the World March 27.
- Programs:
 1. Franklin Ridge Presentation successful.
 2. Cancer Support Group to be offered by Angel Moscatelli, "Healing Cancer with Grace."
- Updates:
 1. Sarah selected to serve on MCOA legislation **committee**.
 2. Some staff members taking Mclean Hospital **trainings**.
 3. The Director advised the Board to note when communicating with other members, the Open Meeting Law:
Massachusetts Open Meeting Law mandates that public bodies conduct business openly, ensuring citizens can observe deliberations and decisions.
 4. Trish Collatos, our Community and Wellness Nurse, has been taking educational training courses, on her own. She is very dedicated and an asset to the Senior Center.
 5. In April, more of the staff will be training in CPR, First Aid, and dementia.

Chairperson's Comments:

Sunshine Club funding—Some of our members are from out of town. The director will reach out to these towns to see if they can help finance their residents who attend our program.

Meals on Wheels looking for a new place and the Senior Center is being considered.

FOFE Liaison Report:

- Latest tallies:
 1. Membership \$ 4,150.
 2. In Memorial \$ 2,031.
 3. Donations \$ 3,930.
 4. Coffee \$ 77.
 5. Times Travel \$ 56.
 6. Honor of \$ 45.

Old Business:

Picture in March.

New Business:

- Two Meeting changes: Nov. 18 and Dec. 16.
- Board Members Need to track their volunteer hours.
- Need to allocate some donation monies for hotel stays for homeless.
- Town Council Meeting scheduled the Senior Center budget for April 6.
- Reviewing Resource Guide for COA Board Members (MCOA)
- Older Adults Lobby Day is Wednesday May 6, 2020, 11:30-2:00.

Committee Reports: (Tabled from October)

- Budget Committee – haven't met
- Bylaw Committee
 1. Reviewing, updating, checking.
 2. Compiling in a binder
- Expo Committee – haven't met
- Housing Committee - invitation sent to new Franklin Housing Authority Director
- Nominating Committee - No action.
- Program Committee - Jillian will set up meeting.
- Supportive Day Committee - no action

Comments:

The Volunteer Appreciation Group will fold into another committee.

Agenda for Next meeting:

Discussion about Volunteer Appreciation.

Possibly the new Housing Director will present.

Adjournment: 12:06 pm

Motion: Roberta Trahan

Second: Kim Mu-Chow

