

Council on Aging
Room 135, 18 Jacobs Road Municipal Building
Minutes Thursday, April 16, 2026

Present: Anne Emmet, Margaret Freeman, Lyra Johnson-Fuller, Donna Hyytinen, Sue Lively, Cathy Tallen.

Guest: Lynne Feldman

Meeting called to order at 1:00 p.m.

Review Agenda: sponsoring Garden Club; tables for ATM; after-dinner workshop survey.

M/S/P Anne, Donna, unanimous: to approve the 3-19-2025 minutes as amended.

M/S/P Anne, Cathy, unanimous: to approve the 3-25-2025 minutes as amended.

Lynne Feldman: Lynne introduced herself as heading the Agency and Aging division at LifePath. She provided a comprehensive overview of LifePath, describing its state accreditation and being the access point for service providers, with resource consultants responding to individual needs and initial offerings free (27 Heathans called in 2025), with various requirements for individual programs to work with cross-referrals with Councils on Aging, such as the SHINE program that train volunteers on Medicare options. Following discussions included the possibility of providing Meals-on-Wheels food service on site; the Care-Manager program offering free services and a network of vendors, dependent on income (though the State's pause has created a waiting list), an example being providing care buttons and a monthly help toward cost; Protective Services that can connect COAs to Elder Care for intense case management with the person's consent; the Community Engagement program ending June 30 – * Lyra will check with Shelburne Falls on memory café.

Follow-up Notes: Select Board reviewed the Action Plan Sue sent in and expressed their appreciation.

SPC Report: Lyra updated details on upcoming events and help for seniors. She suggested that we have a talk about the need for replacing old items, like coffee pots and electronic equipment after the Fair. *Put on the agenda for future review. Lyra also asked if the Operations account could be used for reimbursement. *Sue and Lyra will check.

Rowe Request: M/S/P Margaret, Cathy, unanimous: not to participate in Strong Bones program.
*Margaret to inform Rowe.

Fund Raising: A future summer tag sale was suggested, with a \$10 charge per table, *on some future agenda, with organizing committee created.

Workshop Survey: * Sue will provide for the Senior Meal to be checked off for interest.

Garden Club: Has been added to the Resource Fair.

Tables for ATM: Tim Lively agreed to have the refreshment table in front of the gym and out of the way of the walking path.

Community Resource Fair: Appreciation was made to the organizing committee who worked really hard, and arrangement finalized for the Senior Room refreshment and information areas.

Next meeting: Thursday, May 21, 2026 at 1:00 pm.

M/S/P Anne, Donna, unanimous: to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 p.m.