Dunstable Council on Aging
April 1, 2026
Grange Hall, Town Hall Lower Level
Minutes

1. Meeting called to order at 9:20 AM. Present: Ron Mayer, Mary Dow, Jean Haight, Barbara Martin, Chuck Raffoni. Guests: Carol Valencourt, Karen Debreceni, Maureen Strauss.
2. The minutes from the March 4, 2026 COA meeting were reviewed and approved.
3. Elder American Month: Birthday Celebration for residents turning 90 in 2026. There are 7. Barbara contacted the GLVHS and the only date we can use their facility is May 6th, with a limit of 20-25 people. This will not work for us if all the celebrants come, with at least 2 people each. It was decided to hold the Birthday meal on May 13th, using the Traveling Chef meal. We will travel as a group to the GLVHS on the 6th for our usual outing. Jean will send out invitations to all the birthday people.
4. Ron Mayer arranged to have birthday cards made at the Nashua Y. We all signed a thank you card for their participation.
5. Senior Fund: A fund was created several years ago through lots of fund raising. The original goal for the fund was to help create a Senior Center in Dunstable. A decision needs to be made how to spend the $30,000. Those who worked hard in raising this money want to have a say in how it should be spent. Their recommendation will be voted on by the COA board. Carol spoke for the seniors who helped raise the money. She is very happy that the seniors meet at the Library, and feels the Library staff are very accommodating. Access to the building is easy and they feel comfortable. Carol is recommending that the funds be used at the Library, potentially to replace the flooring in the Community Room, replace the sink and fix the plumbing so that hot water is consistently available. Library Director Maureen Strauss will work on a proposal to be presented at the next COA Board meeting in May.
6. Carol also requested that copies be made of the weekly newsletter so that those who do not use email can get the information easily. Ron committed to printing it out and getting Carol a copy each week.
7. May Meals: 5/6- trip to GLVHS, 5/13-Birthday celebration, Traveling Chef pasta meal, 5/20-TBA, 5/27-TBA.
8. May 5th- Dinner at the GDRHS for the seniors, need to sign up ahead, 100 spots.
9. All Shook Up: Use Main Street entrance to access the restaurant. Chuck will distribute the tickets ahead of time. Need to sell more tickets!!
10. Digital Equity Grant- Still working on this.

11. July 22nd- Barry Scott appearance- Town Hall, Traveling Chef is booked!
12. Possible field trips: Fruitlands Museum (with lunch), Woodmans in Ipswich)
13. Next meeting on 5/6 at 9:30 AM. Meeting adjourned at 10:50 AM.

Submitted by Jean Haight, COA Secretary