

**DURHAM SENIOR CITIZENS BOARD MINUTES
OCTOBER 22,2025
1:15 PM
DURHAM COMMUNITY CENTER**

Call to order: by Lainy Melvin at 1:16 PM

Roll call: In attendance: Chairperson Lainy Melvin, Vice Chairperson Norm Hicks, Diane Coe Simone Howe, Jim Martinelli, Bev Pedersen, Coleen Sturken, Recreation Director Brian Medeiros, Social Services Director Morgan Perry. Absent: Carol Kleeman, Rosemary Bartholomew, Secretary, Doug Madden.

Approve agenda: Motion to approve agenda as presented was made by Norm Hicks, seconded by Diane Coe. All in favor. **Motion passed**

Approve minutes of 9/17/2025: Motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Norm Hicks, seconded by Bev Pedersen. All in favor. **Motion Passed**

REPORTS

Social Services

- **-Energy Assistance Season: Folks can make an appointment with Morgan or complete through the DSS portal: https://portal.ct.gov/heatinghelp/connecticut-energy-assistance-program-ceap?language=en_US Soonest folks can order fuel is November 1.**
- Food pantry:** Needs include: Protein-based, low sodium soups, Baked beans, Black beans, Canned chicken, Mac and cheese, Instant potatoes, Jelly/jam, Coffee, Canned tomatoes (crushed, diced), Condiments (ketchup, mayonnaise, salad dressing), Rice, Granola bars, crackers, healthy snacks, Cleaning products (laundry detergent, disinfectant sprays), Paper towels, Hygiene products (deodorant, shampoo, body wash)
- Community Round Up/Drop Off:** Will take place in November.
- SNAP:** Folks who are struggling with food security should contact Morgan. Donations of gift cards (\$25 increments to Walmart, Aldi, Stop & Shop, Visa) appreciated as well as food pantry donations.

-Medicare Open Enrollment: October 15—December 7, 2025. If you'd like to make an appointment to go over your options you can contact Morgan or the Senior Resources CHOICES program: (860) 887-3561 x132.

-AARP Safe Driving Class: Had to be rescheduled.

-Nutrition Education: November 17th @ 12PM with Chris Blancarte, MS RDN. The topic is "Go With Your Gut: Exploring the Connection Between Food and Gut Health". Sign up with Morgan by 11/13.

-Vaccine Clinic: 11/4 from 8AM – 12PM 3rd floor, Durham Town Hall.

-Blood Drive: Monday 11/10 from 9AM – 3PM, Blood Mobile parked out front of Town Hall. Sign up here: https://donate.ribc.org/donor/schedules/drive_schedule/80536 or call Morgan for help scheduling: 860-349-3153.

-Prepared & Empowered: A Life Planning 5-Part Series for Older Adults and Their Families. Third session is 11/13 @ 6PM, Durham Community Center: Stay Safe Online: How to Click with Confidence and Avoid Scams

-TUMM! (Towns United through Meals and Mentoring): Meals are on the 1st Thursday of every month at 5:30PM at the Durham Community Center. Next one: 11/6. Folks can sign up online or call Morgan.

-Thanksgiving Program: Asking that anyone donating a frozen turkey let me know by 11/14. Asking for Thanksgiving food items (cranberry sauce, cream of mushroom soup, canned vegetables (french-style green beans, yams), gravy, instant potatoes, corn bread (boxes), crispy onions, stuffing) to be dropped off to the Community Center by 11/14. We will be assembling the boxes 11/20 from 8AM – 9AM for handout that day.

-Drug Take Back Day: Saturday, 10/25 from 10AM – 2PM @ Durham and Middlefield Community Centers.

Recreation:

Zumba for Cancer Saturday Oct. 25 10 AM-noon

Trunk or Treat Saturday Oct. 25 Noon-2 PM

No Tuesday classes on November 4th and November 11th

Tai Chi class has been well received and will continue

Food Services:

The September luncheon was successful. Bev appreciates the two new double boilers.

Finance Report: None

Bridge Consultant: One new member. No Bridge on the Friday after Thanksgiving

OLD BUSINESS

The Fire Safety luncheon was very successful. Chief Terrence Wall made an informative presentation. Norm Hicks sent him and all Durham firefighters a Thank You note.

NEW BUSINESS

Norm Hicks made a motion to pay bills from Durham Market (\$166.65), Bev Pedersen (\$35.51), and Lainy Melvin (\$49.98) as presented. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Veteran's Luncheon scheduled for Friday, November 14th. Carol Schilling will join us as will Bob Francis from the American Legion and Brendan Rae, Jr. from the VFW. Musicians from CRHS will play some patriotic songs. Lainy will make red carnation boutonnieres. Lunch will be pizza from Carmine's and salad. Carol Schilling will bring dessert. The Senior Board will supplement with cookies from BJ's if necessary.

Holiday Potluck Lunch will be on Friday, December 5th. Tim Fischer will come with the CRHS Jazz Combo band

Lainy Melvin is organizing the Senior Board Trunk or Treat . The event will take place on Saturday, Oct. 25 at the Durham Community Center. Diane Coe made a motion that Lainy can spend up to \$100 for supplies. Seconded by Norm Hicks. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

DISCUSSION:

Lainy, on behalf of the Durham Senior Citizens Board, will meet with the Board of Selectmen to request a dishwasher for the Community Center.

Motion made to adjourn at 1:47 PM by Norm Hicks, seconded by Diane Coe. All in favor. **Motion passed.**

Respectfully submitted,

Simone Howe, Acting Secretary

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