



**Town of Sherman**  
**Commission on Aging**  
**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**February 2, 2026**

Commissioners Present: Janet Wey (Acting Chair), Keith Barton, Meredith Kroeger, Merialis Lewis, Jeanne McRoberts, Kim Thomson

Absent: Lynda Arnold, Suzette Berger (Senior Center), Sheila McMahon, Susan White

Also Present: Lynne Gomez (Social Services), C. Aruza (Clerk)

The meeting was called to order at 4:03 PM by Acting Chair, J. Wey.

**Motion made by:** J. McRoberts moved to approve the 11/17/2025 minutes

**Seconded by:** M. Lewis

**Vote For:** Unanimous

**Senior Center/Social Services Report:**

**Senior Center Report**

No report at this time.

**Social Services Report**

L. Gomez said they are still processing energy assistance applications which go on all winter. They have three generous charitable organizations that fill in the gaps for those that don't qualify (Sherman Cares, Sherman Congregational Church, Salvation Army). The emergency management team, per Governor Lamont's declaration of a weather emergency, has designated the senior center as a 24x7 warming center.

L. Gomez also advised they had a busy open enrollment season with Medicare and will try to do a Medicare update event in the spring to keep interested seniors updated on the program. She said the food pantry is stocked well with food and that they received grocery store gift cards during the last government shutdown to help families in need.

M. Kroeger asked what can be done about social security scammers saying the number of calls being received is very high right now. L. Gomez said the senior Medicare patrol comes in and provides education about scammers. She also instructs seniors to hang up and not engage with scam callers so they are not recorded. K. Barton reiterated that social security never calls uninitiated. J. McRoberts talked about scams that occur via email and suggested ‘ghosting over’ the sender’s email address to know if it is fraudulent. L. Gomez asked commissioners about the best way to get the word out on how to handle this issue. M. Kroeger suggested the *Sherman Sentinel* and the senior center newsletter.

### **Ongoing Business:**

#### 1) Building Committee Update

Per K. Thomson she attended the last meeting on January 13<sup>th</sup>. During the meeting the existing body advised their primary business for the meeting would be to discuss formalizing a permanent senior center building committee with discussion of potential members to be appointed. She then provided the dates for the upcoming meetings (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of every month at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall) to the other commissioners. K. Thomson asked about the “Friends of Sherman” non-profit organization and if they will donate money to the construction of the new building. J. Wey clarified that it will be for soft costs such as furniture.

### **New Business:**

#### 1. COA Budget for Fiscal Year 2026-2027.

J. Wey reiterated that the budget for all commissions is pre-set to address clerk’s fees. All additionally needed budget funds are to be funneled through the business manager for Board of Selectmen approval on a case-by-case basis. However, they would like visibility to those additional requests now during the budgeting process if possible. The commission will still need to vote on the main budget.

J. McRobert **made a motion** to put in the town budget for the clerk's fees estimated in the amount of \$1200.00

**Seconded by:** K. Thomson

**Vote For:** Unanimous

2. Any Special Projects that Require Funding

J. Wey **made a motion** to request additional monies to cover candy packets, brochures and other handouts to be provided at the Community Expo at \$200.00.

**Seconded:** J. McRoberts

**Vote For:** Unanimous

J. Wey also suggested the commission also consider adding to the budget a line item for purchasing cider/donuts for a groundbreaking ceremony for the new senior center building.

K. Thomson **made a motion** to put in a line item in the budget for groundbreaking ceremony refreshments and foods for \$300.00.

**Seconded by:** K. Barton

**Vote For:** Unanimous

3. Discussion of Chairperson Role

J. Wey served in the past as chair of the Commission on Aging for five years and as been acting chair now for one year. There is the possibility that she may move out of Sherman in the next year. In addition, there is no second chair to lead meetings in case she is not available. She recommended that the commission select a vice chair. J. McRoberts suggested K. Barton as candidate for vice chair. Commissioners discussed the matter briefly.

J. McRoberts **made a motion** to nominate K. Barton as Vice Chair.

**Seconded by:** M. Kroeger

**Vote For:** Unanimous

4. Any New Business that Comes Before the COA

The commission will keep the February 23rd meeting as a placeholder for now. C. Aruza will forward minutes when available for the Sherman Senior Center Building Committee's February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Comments by Commissioners:**

None at this time.

**Public Comment:**

None.

**Adjournment:**

M. Lewis moved to adjourn the meeting at 4:39 p.m.

**Seconded by:** K. Barton

**Vote for:** All in favor

Respectfully submitted by Christine Aruza  
Next meeting: March 16, 2026 @ 4:00 PM at Mallory Town Hall