APPROVED

East Haddam Commission on Aging
COA Meeting Minutes
May 28, 2026 Senior Center

Present: Brad Parker, Maureen Gillis, June Guertin, Tom O'Brien, Joe Sina, Barbara Davis, Jovita Cozean, Elaine Flaherty
Absent: Heather Hunt, Mary Ellen Klinck
Guests: First Selectman Todd Gelston

Meeting called to order at 10:30 AM by J. Sina. Tom O'Brien will sit in and vote on any matters, replacing absent Board Member Heather.
Minutes: March 26, 2026 minutes were accepted by consensus.

Treasurer's Report: B. Parker reported that there is less than $1,000 left in the account that began from Town funds when the Senior Center was built.

Correspondence: None

First Selectman's Report:

- 1st Selectman Gelston reported that the Town budget passed.
- The State Legislature passed a law giving funds back to the Town: $35,000 to the Town & $142,000 for Education.
- Public Safety: Speeding has been a huge concern. Five electronic speed devices are being used: 2 are moveable and 3 are affixed to posts. Written warnings will be given out.
- Several roads are scheduled to be paved.
- Ambulance and Fire Dept. negotiations are ongoing. As of now, the Ambulance work evenings and weekends and Fire Dept. work daytime.
- July 11: Celebration of the signing of the Declaration of Independence at the First Church.
- Moodus Drum & Fife will march
- Governor's Foot Guard will present a 12pm concert
- Events will continue all day at the Grange, Old Town Hall & First Church.

Old Business

- Brad and Heather continue to work on a donation project for Meals on Wheels that is scheduled to begin after Labor Day. Last time this was done, about $3,000 was raised, Signs will be placed at Shagbark, Wrasslin' Cats, Liberty Bank and a few other places.
- Senior Discount Program is being worked on for our town and surrounding towns.
- Tom brought up a proposal for several grant opportunities.

Coordinator's Report:

- Annual Wine Tasting was held and approximately 85 people attended. As a result, some new people now come to Pilates and the exercise room.
- Seniors of the Year: Congratulations to Elaine Flaherty and Peg Urban!
- There will be a 'Monitor Health at Home' program on June 8.
- The Annual Picnic will be held on June 13. This is the 3rd year in a row that Nutmeg Pharmacy has donated $$ to cover the cost of the picnic.

- There will be a 'Food Safety Smarts' program on June 22.
- Shagbark recently held their 'Chick Day'. Donations were given to the Senior Center to help cover the cost of meals.
- Joe Sina reported that 176 tax returns were prepared at the Senior Center for free.

New Business:

- The three-year terms for Board Members Jovita Cozean, Elaine Flaherty and June Guertin have ended. The one-year terms for Alternates Tom O'Brien and Mary Ellen Klinck have also ended. Maureen Gillis made a motion to approve renewing the 3-year terms and 1-year terms. Motion seconded by Elaine Flaherty. A letter will be sent to the Board of Selectmen for reappointment.
- Jovita Cozean mentioned to First Selectman Todd Gelston that the crosswalk in front of the Opera House is dangerous to cross. There is no sign and no police/crossing guard.

The next meeting is on July 23, 2026 at 10:30 AM at the Senior Center.

Motion to adjourn. The meeting adjourned at 11:16 AM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Barbara Davis, Secretary