

Minutes

Recorded Meeting Link [Commission on Aging 2/9/26 \(youtube.com\)](#)

John Riesen called the meeting to order at 9:30am.

- A. Present: John Riesen (2027), Laura Austin (2027); Michelle Baughman (2027),
 - B. Zoom: Nancy Trawick-Smith (2026); Will Bigl (2027),
 - C. Absent: Joanne Sousa (2027), David Stevens (2026), Sylvie DelaMotte (2026), Martina Wharton (2026)
 - D. Staff: Jessica St. Louis, Director of Human Services and Jessica Tracy, Senior Center Supervisor
- ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES of Regular Meeting January 12th; accepted with correction of next meeting date, change from March 9, 2026 to February 9, 2026 Motion to accept made by Michelle Baughman, seconded by Laura Austin and approved by all members present.
 - OPTIONAL REPORTS ON SERVICES/NEEDS OF TOWN'S AGING POPULATIONS
 - A. Health, Social, Recreational and Educational:
 - a. Jess St. Louis reports that EDM will not be attending today's meeting as they need to present to Town Council this evening. COA was encouraged to attend or watch the Town Council meeting if desired. EDM will meet with COA at next regular meeting on March 9, 2026.
 - b. EDM will post times for community outreach opportunities after they have met with COA and other key stakeholders.
 - c. Jess St. Louis reported that a Veterans Roundtable was held last week with 20-25 Veterans in attendance. The attendees were able to provide good feedback on their needs.
 - d. Jess St. Louis reports that the satellite food pantry at the library is going well. An offer has been made for a new part-time position with Human Services. The position is an outreach worker whose primary responsibility will be with veterans. Hopefully they will start before January
 - e. The old van is off the road. We will need a new one. A grant is currently being worked on.
 - f. The Human Services Department is hosting a PJ 5K fundraising event on March 28th. Everyone is encouraged to run, walk, cheer or spread the word.
 - g. Jess Tracy mentioned that the Giving Tree has been extremely successful. We are currently out of items and accepting donations. This program will continue as long as there is cold weather and a supply of donated items.
 - h. The Senior Center is currently looking to hire a yoga instructor.
 - i. In addition to the At Your Fingertips, the Senior Center is looking to compile a list of persons or companies who can provide volunteer or paid snow clearing. This might be just clearing off a car, sidewalk, stairs, or plowing a driveway. The request has gone out for those people interested in being on the list to contact

the Senior Center. Having a name on the list does not mean that the person or business is recommended by the Senior Center or the Town of Mansfield.

- HOUSING REPRESENTATIVES UPDATE
 - a. Rolling Hills – Will Bigl reported that they are shoveling snow and just trying to stay warm. They hosted a Super Bowl chili cook off last weekend and this weekend are hosting a breakfast.
 - b. No representatives for Glen Ridge or Juniper Hill Village
- OLD BUSINESS –
 - a. Sub-committee for COA goals-
 - a. Discussion was had regarding formation of a sub-committee.
 - b. A determination was made that the COA is a small enough group to be able to discuss next goals or focuses for the Commission.
- NEW BUSINESS: None
- PUBLIC COMMENT – None
- ADJOURNMENT-Move to Adjourn 10:08 Michelle Baughman, Laura seconded the motion and it was approved by all members present
- Next regular meeting Monday, March 9, 2026 9:30 am