

Ashland Council on Aging

Meeting Minutes for January 8, 2026

Called to order at 10:35 a.m.

Attendees: Board Members

**Alexis Christopher Debbie Connaughton Eve Aseltine
Rosangela Wilner**

Absent: **Donna Rombauer, Steve Mitchell**

Guests:

Candi Wilson (Director) **Beth Amsler FOACOA**
Meredith Gingrich

Mission Statement: Read by Debbie

Secretary's Minutes:

Alexis moved to approve the December 6, 2025 minutes. Debbie seconded the motion. Approved 4-0

Citizen Participation:

- Letters to all the businesses and committees in town

Directors Report: Candi shared her report, and the following discussions were had:

- Busy December, increase of events from last year
- Rides (last year, at this time, we didn't know the end driver)
- Services (the services can be anything that involves a phone call, but due to the high volume of work, not everything was recorded during the summer, so this number is probably not entirely accurate)
- Volunteers
- Total people served
- Trips (no information about trip)
- New participants
- Newsletter deadlines to Mary: Our printer that we submit our newsletter to has bumped our deadlines up an entire week. Volunteer coordinator in a separate position; Lack of increase of staffing in the past 10 years; three-fold increase in events, programming, activities, services to a community, and no added staff.

- Country Stores Sales: December \$ 254. FOACOA jewelry was a success, numbers next meeting
- Outreach/transportation update: Memory Cafe starts again on January 27th, Tuesdays, 1-2:30pm. Updating transportation information. Assisting residents with SMOC fuel assistance
- Trip coordinator
- AARP - tax prep begins in February. They have three volunteers a year. They come in, prepare income tax returns.
- Tax work off 2026 - 10 positions filled
- Donations - seeking donations for the Senior subsidized meal program - Keefe Tech & volunteer cook "in house" prepared meals.

Debbie moved to approve the Directors report, Alexis seconded it.
Approved 4-0

Monthly Updates:

New Business:

Motion to appoint Meredith Gringrich to the COA. A letter will be sent to the select board for approval. Debbie moved to accept and Eve seconded. Motion passed 4-0

Around the Table:

Open Meeting Law and Conflict of interest training - February 4,
6-7:00 pm

Adjournment: 11:44 a.m.

Motion to adjourn was made by Eve and seconded by Debbie.
Approved 4-0.

Submitted by Rosangela Wilner.

Documents distributed: Director's Report.