

**Watertown Senior Center
Advisory Board Minutes
October 21, 2025**

1. Call to Order

The Senior Center Advisory Board met in person on October 21, 2025. The meeting was called to order by Andrea Draeger at 9:08 a.m.

Present: Jennifer Johnson, Dawn Justman, Betty Jimenez, Lynn Fredrick, John Wanke, Peggy Brown, Andrea Draeger.

Not present: Mara O'Brien.

2. Review and Approve Minutes

Dawn Justman motioned to approve the August 19, 2025 minutes as written. Betty Jimenez seconded. Motion carried.

3. Review and Approve the Monthly Financial Report

Discussion took place regarding the bake sale proceeds from the Patio Party. Andrea will follow up on where those funds were allocated. Betty Jimenez motioned to approve the August financial report as presented. John Wanke seconded. Motion carried.

4. Citizens to Be Heard

There were none.

5. Business

A. Review and take action: funds for raised toilets

Quotes for new toilets were discussed. Peggy Brown approved the lowest quote option. Dawn Justman seconded. Motion carried.

B. Review and discuss: End of 2025 and 2026 event and fundraiser calendar

The group reviewed the end of 2025 and 2026 event and fundraiser calendar. Discussion included discontinuing the movie license or offering concession sales during adult/family movie nights. Quarterly birthday parties will move to Wednesdays next year, and the Patio Party may be added to the annual event list.

C. Review and take action: senior center concession sales

Discussion occurred regarding concessions being sold from the office rather than the vending machine. A donated or purchased refrigerator will be used for beverages. Dawn Justman motioned to approve selling concessions out of the office. John Wanke seconded. Motion carried.

6. Chairperson's Committee Reports

A. Update Fundraising Committee on Current Efforts

The Patio Party and Dedication held on September 24 and the Brat Fry held on September 13 were both successful. Upcoming fundraisers include 50/50 raffles (to be finalized in December for the Holiday Party and January Bingo proceeds), cookie boxes (baking on December 13 and assembly potentially on December 13 or 16 after

the meeting), and a soup sale on January 22 to include drinks and desserts. The soup sale may move to the Snack Shop or Conley kitchen or replace senior dining for the day. Scrip gift cards are available for purchase at the Reception Desk, with plans to increase online advertising during the holidays. Greeting cards are available for purchase; all other cards, such as sympathy cards, must be approved by the office. The Generations of Joy sponsorship program is ongoing, with an open house on December 3. A joint department effort will be made to create a 2026 sponsorship letter and press release.

B. Update Membership Committee on Current Memberships and Renewals

A new sign-in system using recreation software and barcode fobs/tags is being explored. Membership coupons for new members are available through the Watertown Chamber of Commerce. Membership renewal letters will go out in October. The board also discussed prorating memberships in 2026 so that those joining in October or later will roll over into the following year. A review will be conducted to evaluate the value of memberships, considering both direct and indirect costs, to guide future membership fee discussions.

C. Update Community Services Committee on Projects and Efforts

The Second Harvest Foodbank donation barrel will be placed out for the month of November. The Halloween Candy Exchange, “Sweets for Swims,” will allow one free pool admission for every pound of candy donated. A press release will be issued. A donated quilt will be raffled off at the AM VETS Veterans Day event on November 10. Betty Jimenez will prepare flower boutonnieres for veterans, and we will post the raffle will begin at 8:00 a.m. Additional drives such as food, school supplies, and assisted living supplies were discussed. These will be added to the newsletter and promoted through Facebook and Instagram.

D. Update Program Committee on Program Attendance and New Programs

The cookie class will be scheduled for November 28. The stamping group will continue, with interest in possibly expanding into a handmade card-making group. The cribbage league and family tournament are going well. Senior play day has been moved to Fridays. Yahtzee attendance has been low, so the program will now run on Mondays. Gold Star Self Defense classes will return in December at the Police Department. Peggy Brown will ask about a quiet bingo machine at Thursday Bingo. Upcoming events include:

- November Birthday Party – November 18
- Veterans Day – November 10 (hors d’oeuvres)
- Generations of Joy decorating – November
- Holiday Open House – December 3
- Holiday Party – December 17 (lasagna)
- Handchimes and Norwegian Dancers – December
- Family Holiday Craft and Wrap event – December 12 (volunteers needed for snacks, crafts, and wrapping)
- Family Bingos – October 24, November 26, and December 29

7. Director's Report

Building updates the installation of pool table lights. Handicap bathroom doors were discussed for review.

Active shooter training for volunteers will be scheduled at a later date.

The newsletter will be sent to the board for review before publishing if available.

A new volunteer application form has been developed.

A smaller "Free Table" will be obtained for the center.

Betty, Dawn, and student volunteers will assist with the Veterans Day event.

The Holiday Party will feature a bake sale coordinated by Betty and Josie, with student volunteers also assisting. Santa may be available at the event.

8. Adjournment

Peggy Brown motioned to adjourn. John Wanke seconded. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 a.m.