

Greene County Senior Citizens' Services Fund Board Minutes

Meeting - Monday March 23, 2026

Introduction:

Chuck Marinec, Chairman, called a meeting of the Greene County Senior Citizens' Services Fund Board to order on March 23, 2026 at 9:00 a.m. Self-introductions were made for recording purposes. The meeting was held at the Historic Courthouse, Room 309, 940 Boonville, Springfield, Missouri.

Board Members Present:

Chuck Marinec, Denny Pilant, Mike Jungers, Stephen Short, Robert Thurman, Mary Ellison and Sharon Forrester.

Board Members Absent:

None

Others Present:

Tess Wroolie (Auditor's Office), James Rees (Cox Health Foundation), Jamie Casanova (Cox Health Foundation), Jim Barnes (Ash Grove Sunshine Center), Samantha Steury (Gillioz Center for Arts & Entertainment), Ashley Grimes (Ozarks Area, Community, Action Corp.) Colton Nelson, Courtney Park (SG Public Library Foundation), Alison Eckhardt (SG Public Library Foundation), Jennine Berkenfeld (SG Public Library Foundation), Katie Hopkins, Danette Proctor (Schuyler Community Center), Wes Buckles (Council of Churches of the Ozarks), Daniel Ketcher (Council of Churches of the Ozarks), Jordan Taylor

Meeting Minutes:

February 23, 2026. Motion to approve made by Mike Jungers. Seconded by Mary Ellison. Motion carried.

Treasurer's Report:

Treasurer's report for February 2026 was presented by Steve Short. Cash Balance as of the end of February is \$4,787,623.20. Property Tax Revenue was \$444,576.74, Bank/Investment \$19,171.02, Refunds & Reimbursements \$94,089.95, Other Revenue \$0.00 with a Total Revenue of \$557,837.71, the YTD Revenue is \$3,013,722.13. Total Expenditures \$0.00, the

YTD Expenditures are \$30,880.50. Total Ending Balance of \$5,345,460.91. Total Investments Principal \$2,926,191.20 at longer term investment and that should yield Approximate Annual Interest \$87,906.90.

Motion to approve Treasurer's report made by Denny Pilant. Seconded Sharon Forrester. Motion carried.

Old Business:

Presentation: Ash Grove Sunshine Center – Jim Barnes

Amount Requested: \$800.00

In February, 2026, the kitchen air conditioner stopped working, and in spite of the wintery weather outside, temperatures in the kitchen exceeded 80 degrees every day. A local repairman was called to diagnose the problem and determined that the blower motor would have to be replaced. There was a delay in getting the motor, but it arrived and was installed on March 16th. The cost came to \$800. We paid for the motor from our operating funds, and are asking for grant funds to reimburse the cost.

Three bids were not obtained for the part and the cost was under the \$1,300.00 threshold.

Motion to approve made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Mary Ellison. Motion Carried.

New Business:

Presentation: Ash Grove Sunshine Center – Jim Barnes

Amount Requested: \$3,491.48

Emergency repairs were required in February 2026, following sub-zero arctic weather that caused a 92-foot-long crack to open up along the center of front porch. Emergency repairs were made from our operating funds, and we are requesting a grant to reimburse us for those costs.

Motion to approve made by Steve Short. Seconded by Denny Pilant. Motion Carried.

Presentation: CoxHealth Foundation – James Rees, Jordan Taylor, Jamie Casanova

Amount Requested: \$275,000.00

Over the past several years, CHAH has seen a decline in the number of seniors using landline phone services, as phone service providers continue to shift away from landline technology to wireless service. CHAH is proactive in addressing shifts due to technological advancement. CHAH Lifeline continues to support existing landline subscribers, providing

periodic check-ins to assure continued connectivity, with all new program participants being equipped with wireless-based solutions. Providing wireless options has allowed flexibility to customize the technology used to meet individual participant needs and better support the senior population served.

The proposed funding would support options for seniors, including wireless units (with or without the Auto-Alert function), On the Go mobile units and Smart Watch units – both equipped with Auto Alert and GPS tracking and ideal for those seniors who are still active, but have a fall risk. These devices will provide seniors more options to meet their individual lifestyle needs. The Lifeline app is now also available for caregivers. This app allows the caregivers to monitor the battery level of the devices, see the location of the device, and receive alerts in real time with notifications on their phones.

The requested funding of \$275,000 would support 442 Greene County seniors to receive these essential services.

Motion to amend the award amount to \$250,000.00 to exclude administrative costs was made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion carried.

Presentation: Ozarks Area Community Action Corp – Ashley Grimes

Amount Requested: \$90,000.00

Funds will be used to improve the quality of life of Greene County residents, age sixty plus.

Home Care – eligible expenses include home repairs, rent, mortgage, homeowners' insurance, appliances, disability accessibility improvements, auto repairs, medical, dental, and vision expenditures, household cleaning supplies, and needed furniture

Staffing and personnel – a small portion of the grant will be used to pay wages and fringe for the OACAC staff administering this grant.

Motion to approve Mike Jungers. Seconded by Mary Ellison. Motion carried.

Presentation: Gillioz Center for Arts & Entertainment – Samantha Steury

Amount Requested: \$51,000.00

Now entering its fifth consecutive year, the Gillioz Movie Matinees program provides consistent, meaningful social and cultural engagement for senior citizens in Greene County and surrounding areas. Held on the first and third Wednesdays from February through November, the series has established a consistent source of social connection, mental stimulation, and overall quality of life for seniors.

Funds requested will directly support the continuation and expansion of this program by offsetting cost associated with Greene County senior attendance. Through previous support from community partners and senior funds, the Gillioz has successfully reduced financial barriers, resulting in steady participation from both independently living seniors and those residing in senior communities.

In addition to free admission, the Gillioz Movie Matinees include an interactive pre-show trivia experience tied to the year each film was released. This component is designed intentionally to stimulate memory and cognitive engagement which is further enhanced by the historic theatre surroundings.

With the requested funding, the Gillioz will:

- Provide accessible movie and enrichment experiences for 4,500 Greene County seniors over the course of 2026.
- Continue to eliminate cost barriers for Greene County participants.
- Strengthen targeted marketing efforts to reach Greene County seniors.

By investing in this program, funders help ensure seniors in Greene County have ongoing access to affordable, enriching experiences that promote wellness, social connection, and a higher quality of life.

Motion to approve Mary Ellison. Seconded by Sharon Forrester. Motion carried.

Presentation: Springfield-Greene County Public Library Foundation – Alison Eckhardt

Amount Requested: \$5,000.00

The Springfield-Greene County Library Foundation is requesting \$5,000 to expand our Large Print Book Club Kits for older adults, including the addition of new dementia-friendly kits. This project builds on a successful pilot launched in spring 2025, when initial funding allowed us to purchase multiple copies of popular titles and improve access to high-demand books in a format seniors need most.

Grant funds will support the purchase of 10 sets of large-print books at the start of the grant period, followed by an additional 8 sets six months later to keep the collection fresh with current titles. Purchasing newer publications is essential, as large-print editions are often produced in smaller quantities and become difficult to obtain after initial release. Large-print materials also cost significantly more than standard editions, ranging from \$18—\$35 per copy on average, even at discounted library pricing.

Each kit contains 10 copies of a large-print title along with a facilitator guide that includes a summary and discussion questions. Kits circulate for one-month checkout periods to senior living communities, where they support small-group reading and discussion at the participants' location. This removes the need for travel and other costly fees to the facility while making it easier for residents to connect with others and stay mentally active.

Motion to approve Robert Thurman. Seconded by Denny Pilant. Motion carried.

10 Minute Recess was Called

Presentation: Council of Churches of the Ozarks – Wes Buckles, Daniel Ketcher

Amount Requested: \$196,400.00

Crosslines Community Outreach Ozarks is requesting \$196,400 to support our programs for seniors. Funds received enable seniors to:

- Sustain daily nutritional needs as recipients of the senior food box program, CSFP box program, holiday food distributions, and grocery services for homebound individuals,
- engage in meaningful volunteer work,
- Understand their rights as residents of long-term care facilities and maintain their dignity when they are often most vulnerable. Ombudsman volunteers are available to receive complaints and advocate on their behalf,
- housing stability for unsheltered or soon to be unsheltered seniors.

Motion to approve Denny Pilant. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion carried.

Presentation: Schuyler Community Center – Danette Proctor

Amount Requested: \$12,295.00

The Schuyler Community Center (Noted as a Greene County Historic Site), is requesting funding to repair the flooring in the bathroom area as well as replace the flooring throughout the entire building. Community breakfasts, potlucks, and fundraising meals are a regular occurrence at this Community Center. These proposed improvements would help preserve the 120-year-old building for many years for continued use as a community meeting place for social, civic, and educational projects and programs.

Three bids for the flooring repair and replacement were presented to the Board for consideration.

Motion to amend the amount of funds requested to \$11,465.99 made by Denny Pilant. Seconded by Steve Short. Motion carried.

Presentation: Southside Senior Center – Food Enhancement Request

Amount Requested: \$8,000.00

The Food Enhancement Grant would provide the necessary funding to purchase additional food items that enhance the quality, variety, and nutritional value of meals served at the senior center. These funds allow us to offer the meal enhancements that seniors look forward to and greatly appreciate. Without this support, we would be unable to provide these important extras that contribute not only to better nutrition but also to increased participation and overall satisfaction among those we serve.

Motion to approve Sharon Forrester. Seconded by Denny Pilant. Motion Carried.

Presentation: Fair Grove Senior Center – Food Enhancement Request

Amount Requested: \$8,000.00

We are seeking the Food Enhancement Grant to enhance the nutritional quality and variety of SeniorAge's daily noon meals. This investment will fund a comprehensive salad bar and drink station, allowing us to prioritize fresh, seasonal produce through the coming year. Further, these funds will provide the flexibility to enhance our holiday celebrations such as Valentine's Day, the Fourth of July, and Veterans Day with premium ingredients that honor our seniors during these community events.

Motion to approve Mary Ellison. Seconded by Mike Jungers. Motion Carried.

Presentation: Rogersville Area Senior Center – Food Enhancement Request

Amount Requested: \$10,000.00

We are requesting Food Enhancement monies to supplement the food provided by SeniorAge for the weekly meals, Monday to Friday. We purchase items that Senior Age is either not able to buy (drinks) or items that their budget does not support. We buy coffee, tea & lemonade for the daily meals, dessert ingredients not available to SeniorAge and quality meats to supplement their menu items.

Motion to approve Sharon Forrester. Seconded by Mary Ellison. Motion Carried.

Communications:

Members of the Board reported on their visit to the Southwest Missouri Council on Aging meeting they attended and the different items that were discussed. Such items discussed included income tax being replaced by a sales tax, as well as needing to possibly certify Senior Citizen's Funding Boards, Senate Bill 3 that would be voted on but does not impact Greene County, as well as two newly founded Senior Citizen Services Funding Boards in Missouri and one working for approval. There is a second round of regional meeting planned for June.

Closing:

The meeting concluded at 10:57 A.M. Mike Jungers moved to adjourn. Seconded by Robert Thurman. Motion carried.

Next meeting is April 27, 2026 – Location: Historic Courthouse, Room 309.

Minutes submitted by: Tess Wroolie