

LE Phillips Senior Center

Board Meeting Minutes

Date: March 24, 2026

Time: 8:00 – 9:22 AM

Location: LEPSC

Present: Bryan Bessa, Doug Mell, Jerilyn Kinderman, Denise Wirth, Aric Burch, Mary Mero, Jim Bunkelman, Jackie Minor, Janet Lesniewski, Colleen Bates, David Backstrom, Linda Mogensen, Beryle Middleton

Absent: Larry Zorn

1. Call to Order

Chair Bessa called the meeting to order at 8:03 AM.

2. Approval of Minutes

February 17, 2026, minutes approved (Mell/Mero). Motion carried.

3. Treasurer's Report – Kinderman

- Budget on track.
- \$30,000 county payment is late.
- Wellness revenue down due to weather.
- Heating costs elevated due to aging boiler; new boiler to be purchased after winter.
- Donation funded purchase of chairs and tables.
- Stock market volatility noted.

4. Director's Report – Minor

- Great Room project nearly complete.
- Fitness: New local maintenance provider; ~\$1,000 in repairs needed.
 - Motion to purchase treadmill (~\$3,000) approved (Bates/Mero).
- Annual Meeting: May 26; Ann Kaiser and committee updates.
- Resource Fair: Sept. 15; ~50 tables secured thus far.
- Thrift Sale: April 30–May 2 (no clothing donations).
- Audit begins April 7.
- Open House: March 31, 4:00–6:30 PM.
- Craft Sale today, 12:00–7:00 PM.

5. Committee Reports

Executive (Bessa):

- Eau Claire City reduced funding by \$6,000 last year; LEPSC was told the \$36,000 funding annual amount will be eliminated for next year. City Manager advised addressing City Council if LEPSC wants to appeal this decision. Discussed another concern that Eau Claire County may eliminate their funding our center also.
- A motion to oppose the funding elimination was made- “We, the Board of Directors of the L.E. Phillips Senior Center, do hereby request the administration of the city of Eau Claire to retain the current funding level of city support for the programs and operation of the L. E Phillips Senior Center. If the current funding level is reduced or eliminated, the board authorizes its leadership and LEPSC staff to conduct vigorous and public advocacy

efforts to ensure the community and the members of the City Council realize the devastating effect of this fund cut. (Mell/Mero). All in favor. Discussion was made to take action after April elections.

Building (Bunkelman):

- Roof planning to begin.
- Dining room painting needed.
- Boiler replacement after heating season.
- Exploring ~12 additional parking spaces (city-owned land).

Programs & Outreach (Mero):

- Reviewing room use, capacity, and programming, report forthcoming.

Finance (Kinderman):

- Meeting April 8 (investment review).

Fundraising & Planned Giving:

- Annual campaign planning needed.

IT (Minor):

- New access points were installed; transition was smooth.
- City provides internet at no cost.

6. Old Business

None.

7. New Business

None.

8. Adjournment

Adjourned at 9:22 AM (Burch/Mero). Motion carried.

Next Meeting

Tuesday, April 28, 2026, at 8:00 AM

Respectfully submitted,

Denise Wirth, Secretary