

**SPECIAL MEETING
TOWN OF SOMERS
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE ELDERLY
MINUTES OF MAY 21, 2013 MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Chairman Amy Saada at 1:30P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Bachetti, Elaine Bemont, Dorothy Bynack, Ron Collyer, Phylliss Gwilliam, Ailene Henry and Amy Saada

MEMBERS ABSENT: Jim Burgess

AUDIENCE: Linda Coleman, Florence Hurley and Mary Ann Kingsbury

Chairman's Report – Amy reported the following:

- Today there was a Lunch and Learn Session and the subject was the liver. Attendance was very poor. Next session will be at 11:30 on June 25th. Pack your lunch and come in to listen to a presentation on Balance and Falls.
- Keep up to date on what is happening by logging into Amy's blog on Patch.Com. Information is added often and will keep you well informed.
- Weekly trips are being made to the YMCA in Ellington. Time is 8:00 to 11:00 A.M. Membership fee at the Y is income based.
- Farmer's Market is now open in Somers on Saturday morning. Vouchers will be available on an income based schedule once vegetables start coming in.
- New Orleans trip tickets are going well. We need to have thirty people going for pick-up here and we are now close to that number.
- Amy is in charge of the Somers Recreation Camp for the kids. Perhaps some of our seniors interested in presenting a program to the kids would like to come to the park on Field Road and talk to them. It could be worked into the regular schedule.

Meals on Wheels - Linda Coleman has learned that there is some money in this account and is hoping to initiate a subsidized program starting July 1. More details will need to be developed on this. Program will be income based and based on level of need. Board members are very interested in this program. Consequently, the following motion was made by Dory Bynack with a second by Ron Collyer – vote was unanimous:

“MOTION MADE TO DEVELOP A SUBSIDIZED PROGRAM FOR MEALS ON WHEELS WHICH UTILIZES THE FUNDS FOR THIS PROGRAM FOR INCOME ELIGIBLE CLIENTS”.

Communications – No replacement has been made to fill Fran Boudreau’s position on the board. It will be up to the Selectmen to choose another representative from the Woodcrest Housing to fill this vacancy..

Senior Support – Pat Bachetti is only dealing with a couple of clients at the present time. However, the new Assistant Director at Blair recently gave her a list of about twenty-two people for her to keep in contact with. She sends out little notes, etc. to people who are really alone with no family around, etc.

Senior Club – Jim Burgess was absent. Dory Bynack announced that the Club currently has 103 paid members. Geissler’s has been selected to provide food for the Wednesday luncheons. The Scholarship committee has selected two people – a boy and a girl – who will receive their awards at an event to be held early in June. The Club will also be doing their own newsletter when the need arises.

Publicity – Joan Sizer was absent but remains busy taking pictures and putting articles in the local papers..

Trips – The Gwilliams have booked three more trips to Mohegan Sun for the year. Future trips are being held in May, July and September. Trips are well received. Additional trips being planned are as follows:

- 5/30/13 Trader Joe’s & Webs America’s Yarn Store
- 6/13/13 Elizabeth Park
- 7/12/13 Lucky Lobster
- 8/07/13 Triple Lobster at Hu Ke Lau with show
- 9/13/13 Four Town Fair
- 9/25/13 Big E
- 10/16/13 Shady Glen and Munson Candy
- 11/27/13 Manchester Mall and Area Shops
- 12/06/13 Governor’s Mansion
- 12/23/13 Bright Nights at Forest Park

OLD BUSINESS:

May 14 – State Capitol Bus Trip – Phyliss Gilliam reported that nine people went on the trip to the state capital. Although trip was interesting, there was an awful lot of walking for those who do not get around easy. Politicians they were supposed to meet up with were not there. Some good points ----some bad points. Hopefully, trip will take place again next year and will be more successful. Phyliss has contacted the planners of this event with her input in hopes that it will do some good.

NEW BUSINESS:

Music – A music program will be featured at the Senior Center once a month through August. Cost will be \$2.00 for those attending, payable at the door.

Free Computer Lessons - Phyliss is still working with Best Buy regarding free computer lessons. They will supposedly donate \$1,000 towards equipment for use in the future. It was felt that lessons (free) could be held at the Best Buy store in lieu of us doing it here at the senior center – we are equipment shy.

New Fitness Center – New fitness center recently opened in the Geissler’s plaza. Perhaps our seniors could get a decent rate locally and not have to travel to the Y in Ellington. .

Meeting adjourned at 2:40 P.M.

Next meeting of the Advisory Board will be on Tuesday, June 11 at 11:30 A.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine L. Bemont, Secretary

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING