

**TOWN OF SOMERS
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE ELDERLY
MINUTES OF MARCH 10, 2015 MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Chairman Deanna Schuetz at 1:29 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Elaine Bemont, Dory Bynack, Eileen Fedorowich, Phyllis Gwilliam, Ailene Henry, Deanna Schuetz and Joan Sizer

MEMBERS ABSENT: Pat Bachetti and Ron Collyer. Unfortunately, we will be losing Ron as a member of the board due to some health issues.

AUDIENCE: None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of minutes from meeting of February 10, 2015 approved with motion by Dory Bynack and second by Ailene Henry. Vote was unanimous.

Chairman's Report – Deanna reported the following information to the board:

- A **Registration & Medical Waiver Form** will be handed to all those entering the building and using the transportation services. It needs to be known who should be contacted in case any type of emergency arises.
- A plan needs to be established to decide whether we donate the musical organ or keep it at the Center. This item has been tabled to another meeting while some research is done as to who actually donated the organ, etc.
- **Input and suggestions** from the community have been received. Input names some specific things people would like to see happening, ie. Reiki, massages, manicures, Facebook training, computer training, Zumba Gold, Pickle ball, etc. Issues include confusion regarding club/center activities. It was noted that all Center activities are open to all Somers residents. Club dues are \$2.00 a year and people want to know what they get for their \$2.00 payment. **Long term goals** include such things as space issues, additional outdoor space, private meeting rooms, daily lunches provided by CRT, etc. This brings up the question as to the kitchen being adequate to handle this and enough people (25 or more) who would attend. Meals are free - suggested donation of \$2.50.
- Deanna will be meeting with Fran Little at Woodcrest to explain what goes on at the senior center and to answer any questions the residents there might have. It is hoped to get more of them to attend some of the activities here.

Meals on Wheels – This town program will be handled by Christina Cenac of our Social Services Dept. This program will continue to be run by the Plaza Restaurant. Improvements have been made to the billing practice. Ailene Henry said that the containers used for food delivery are in bad shape and need to be cleaned out better weekly. Deanna said new bags are on the way. It was also mentioned that drivers should

have an information sheet with them as to who to contact if need be (Social Services Christina Cenac) if a problem should arise.

Senior Support – Pat Bachetti reported no new information this month.

Publicity – Joan Sizer reported that it is hoped to get news out in various periodicals for public viewing. This would be similar to what other senior centers put in the in the Journal Inquirer, Reminder, etc.

Senior Club News – Dory Bynack reported on the club membership. Menu for the month of April has been established. Pizza will stay on for the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Valentines party was successful. An Irish dinner will be held on the 25th of the month so as not to disturb the “free Pizza week. Club participation in various town sponsored trips have been good. Club dues for 2015 must be paid no later than 9/30. Eileen wondered why we need to have two separate St. Patrick’s events. Deanna said much of it is do to budgeting reasons as she tries to work to the budget allowed her for the year.

Events – Upcoming events include a trip to see Jimmy Mazz at Storowtown on the 19th. 70 people are signed up for the senior center St. Patrick’s party on the 17th. Extended trips do not seem to be going over too well. Perhaps we need to coordinate with other smaller centers to help plan some events. We need more consistency in how are flyers are made up – specifically with the headings. April will be a busy month beginning with a Healthy Breakfast on April 2, “Take Me Out to the Ballgame” on April 10, Volunteer Appreciation Event on April 13, Lt. Claudio coming to talk to us on April 14 regarding the latest trends, scams. etc. Hearing Testing on the 15th, a trip To Better Connecticut on the 17th in the morning and movie in the afternoon, Reiki on the 14th, a trip to Palmer, MA to the Steamship Tender Restaurant, and Life Line Screening on the 30th.

Woodcrest – Eileen reported that a dental hygienist will be coming to Woodcrest as well as a hair dresser who would do home visits. Snow removal and floods have been a problem there as well as all over town. New maintenance person has worked out well. Paint & Sip is a program previously held there which was enjoyed by many. Fee for that program was \$25. It is a program to think about for the future.

OLD BUSINESS: Phyllis mentioned she had given Amy the name of an elder lawyer from Granby, Ct (George Beckford) and wondered if we should arrange for him to come to talk to the seniors who might have specific questions they need answers to. Paperworkk has now been given to Deanna for her review. .

NEW BUSINESS: FOI discussed last month has been resolved. Nothing new seems to have come from this. .

Next meeting of the Advisory Board will be on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 at 1:30.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 3:00 P.M. by motion of Ailene Henry with a second by Phyllis Gwilliam..

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine L. Bemont, Secretary

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING