

**TOWN OF SOMERS
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE ELDERLY
MINUTES OF JUNE 9, 2015 MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Chairman Deanna Schuetz at 1:34 P.M.

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

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

AUDIENCE: Jordan Chatis - Motion made by Eileen Fedorowich with second by Joan Sizer to allow guest to speak if he wished to.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of minutes from meeting of May 12, 2015 with motion by Joan Sizer and second by Pat Bachetti .

Chairman's Report :

- Improvements are being made to the building. A patio has been added to the back of the building and a door will be put in place for easy entrance, exit to the patio. The Health Room needs some improvements. It is hoped to put up walls/dividers to make more available useful room for different activities. This will be where the current staff desks currently are located. It is also hoped to close in the library area.
- CHOICES – North Central Area on Aging – Recent presentation was well attended by our seniors. It is hoped to have more of these sessions in the future. It is important for our seniors to know the various offerings available to them from an independent source rather than using a broker with some financial interest in the options.
- Congregate meals – CRT – Interest seems to be building in this endeavor. It will be some time before it actually takes place. A letter of intent has to be presented as well as some changes in kitchen requirements, etc. Setting up and clean up of this event would be volunteer based.
- Zumba classes will be on hold for the time being. A new instructor needs to be found for this event. It was originally scheduled to start in September. There will be a “free” class at Woodcrest on June 22nd at 22:11 A.M.
- Several activities currently being held at Kibbe Fuller School will be returning to the Senior Center. That is where the seniors feel most comfortable and want their activities taking place.

Meals on Wheels – Ailene reported that there are currently six recipients of these meals with one volunteer per day. A back-up is needed daily in case the scheduled driver cannot make it.

Senior Support – Pat Bachetti reported she is currently in contact with fifteen people via cards, etc. and things are going well.

Publicity – Joan Sizer had nothing new to report this month on publicity.

Senior Club News – Dory Bynack reported on the club membership. A July 4th party is being planned by the Club for Wednesday, July 1. Hamburgers, hot dogs, salads, etc. will be on the menu. Entertainment will follow. Club members are in appreciation of all the trips the town has been providing and giving them a chance to enjoy. The town selectmen have been invited to join us at this party.

Events – Following is a listing of events sponsored by the town of Somers:

- Attorney Bickford will be here on Friday, 6/12. at 1:00 P.M.
- A Father's Day BBQ will be held on 6/18
- The Friday matinee: The Pursuit of Happiness, will be held on 6/19
- A 25th Anniversary celebration of the Somers Senior Center will be held on Monday, 6/29, at 1:00. It is hoped to have many prominent people and local and state officials at this event as well as representatives from the major organizations in town. Speeches will be given by some of these people. It is hoped that some seniors will speak up and present what we feel are our most pressing needs here at the Center. Ailene Henry and Phyllis Gwilliam will be designing a tree backdrop where people can place leaves stating what they like the most about being part of the Center.
- Senior Club BBQ will be on July 1
- Potential Lunch & Learn on Weight management/Nutrition on July 31
- National Strawberry Sundae Day on July 7
- Blood drive on July 30

Woodcrest – Eileen reported that Zumba Gold Class – “Try it for free class” will be on Monday, June 22nd. Woodcrest is holding a BBQ for its residents on June 26th. Clint Marquardt, a general computer whiz, is welcoming calls from our seniors who might need his help. He may also be interested in doing some workshop type events at the Center in the future. Eileen also met a woman at Westfield Bank in Enfield who is available to talk to the seniors on various topics if we need her. The May Housing Commission meeting was cancelled. Per an article which recently appeared in the Journal Inquirer, it appears that there may be a significant raise in some rents at Woodcrest in the future.

OLD BUSINESS: Organ is still in need of a good home. If anyone knows of someone who can make good use of it, please let Deanna know.

NEW BUSINESS: Dory Bynack mentioned that the Club is interested in making a float for the Four Town Fair in September and would like to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Senior Center in this event. Anyone interested in being part of this plan, please let Dory or Dan Fraro know.

A discussion arose at to anyone soliciting or promoting their political agendas at the Center. This is absolutely forbidden as this is a Town building and will not be tolerated at any time.

COMMENTS:

Jordan Chatis made an observance that this Elderly Commission is so much better than years ago. It is good to see things going in the right direction. Items of importance to be dealt with in the future include classes on use of the defibrillator and training all staff members and bus drivers in the use of CPR. A well-furnished first aid kit has been received.

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

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 3:00. by motion of Joan Sizer with a second by Ailene Henry.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine L. Bemont, Secretary

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING