

Town of Somers

Meeting of Advisory Committee for Seniors

June 14 2016

Present: Pat Bachetti, Dori Bynack, Eileen Fedorowich, Phyllis Gwilliam, Ailene Henry, Deanna Schuetz, Joan Sizer, Tim Welch

Absent: Elaine Bemont

Audience: Tina Toohey

The meeting was called to order at 1:31 pm by chairman Deanna Schuetz.

A thank you note from Elaine was received and read.

Amendments to minutes of last meeting: Deanna asked that we add that the first Selectman spoke to the future of the MOWs program and reported that the Board of Selectmen voted to proceed with hiring CRT (Community Renewal Team) to provide our Meals on Wheels meals. Dori moved and Joan seconded the motion that we clarify the information about people who do not sign up for programs and add "in particular, repeat offenders". Spelling corrections – Senior Citizens' Club, Blair Manor Joan moved and Eileen seconded the motion that the minutes of the last meeting be approved as amended. Thanks to Tim for being secretary for the past two meetings.

Committee Updates:

Chairman's Report:

- I. **Coffee Talk Series:** Next one will be Friday July 8 at 1:00 pm. Focus will be on future programming for the Senior Center
- II. **Technology Classes:** Committee members who attended the Facebook presentation reported an excellent format, handout and presentation by Sue Marshman. Some suggestions for future presentations included photo management, Shutterfly, Ipad use, smart phone use. Consensus was photo management would be most useful so Deanna will look for someone qualified to present this.
- III. **Senior Center Improvements:** It is the end of the fiscal year and we are in a good position financially. The Senior Center will have a new reception desk which will be enclosed and closer to the front door. We will have a new 25 hour a week Senior Center assistant. There will be new "MySeniorCenter" software with a check-in card which will facilitate more accurate statistics. Reminder phone calls will be automated. There will be a credit card machine. Senior center staff is working on clearing the storage room for use as another activity room. Eileen reported more room is needed for playing dominoes. Staff is checking in with various groups to see what supplies they need – shirts for Wii bowling team, maybe another TV, a new bingo machine, a new microwave, new inside furniture to replace furniture that is now on the patio.

Upcoming Senior Center programs: Deanna gave a handout with upcoming events for the next month. Highlights include a once a week summer intergenerational program, SCAMPER, in cooperation with the recreation department. A question was asked about a trip to Foxwoods. Deanna has looked into this but is concerned about putting money up front to hire a bus before we know that we could fill the bus. Movies are going well. Eileen reported that the Diabetic series was well done. Dory reported that the trip to Bermuda was good.

Meals on Wheels: An application has been submitted to CRT but no response yet. Allied rehab personnel have volunteered to deliver meals once a week.

Senior Support: Pat is in contact with 15 people.

Senior Club: 197 members at present. A picnic will be held on July 6 with a cook out and entertainment.

Publicity: Deanna sends program information to local newspapers. There is a problem with incorrect info in the Thursday Hartford Courant supplement that replaced the Reminder. Joan writes articles about events that have taken place.

Woodcrest: Eileen is hoping to start a "Welcome Wagon" program for new residents with a personal visit and information about community resources. She has permission from the management.

Old Business: none

New Business: Tim asked about the Four Town fair float. There will be none because of pending legal issues.

Deanna reported that our July meeting is cancelled. At our next meeting we will discuss choosing a vice chairman to take Deanna's place if she needs to be away. Our next regularly scheduled meeting will be August 9th.

Tim moved and Pat seconded that the meeting be adjourned.

Respectfully submitted
Ailene Henry secretary

Minutes not official until approved at subsequent meeting.

