

Town of Somers

Meeting of Advisory Committee for Seniors

November 8 2016

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

Absent: Pat Bachetti,

Audience: Dan Fraro, Bev Guimond, Ann Murphy

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm by chairman Deanna Schuetz.

Minutes of last meeting: Tim moved and Elaine seconded that the minutes of the last meeting be approved as written.

Committee Updates:

a. Chairman's Report:

I. Technology Classes: Contact has been made with the Somers High School Beta Club and National Honor Society asking them to help us with individual cell phone instruction starting in January.

II. Upcoming Senior Center Trips/Events/Programs: Deanna distributed a list of November and December events and trips. Complete list is available on request.

"Intrepid" trip has been cancelled for lack of interest. The 12/12 Holiday Light Fantasia trip will be to Hartford. We are hoping that the Girl Scouts will help again with the 12/30 New Years celebration.

b. Meals on Wheels: Program is going well. We are still on the CRT wait list. When CRT contacts us, Human Services and Selectmen can reassess at that time whether this is the right plan for us. CRT does not provide for people under 60. Existing program has the flexibility to do this. Human Services is looking at providing inclement weather meal packs.

c. Senior Support: Pat keeps in monthly contact with people at Blair Manor with holiday goodies and cards. The program is well received.

d. Senior Club: Dory reported that there are 184 active members for 2015 and 2016. There are 29 pending members. There will be a Thanksgiving celebration on Nov. 16.

In an attempt to resolve confusion between the Senior Center and the Senior Club, Dan Fraro, president of the Senior Club and club members Ann Murphy and Bev Guimond were present to answer questions about the club and its by-laws. Deanna pointed out that it is unusual for a private club to be active within a town building. There was a consensus that the club by-laws need to be revised to reflect the fact that the club and the Senior Center are two separate entities. Dan stated that the club is willing to work on amending the by-laws as needed. Joan stated that it is important for the club to understand the IRS rules as related to a 501c7 organization. It was suggested that all club members receive written information when joining and in periodic mailings during the year, about the benefits of club membership and about upcoming events.

Deanna suggested that the club have a volunteer appreciation event for their own volunteers.

- e. **Publicity:** There was a good newspaper article about the CERT presentation at the Sr. Ctr.
- f. **Woodcrest:** Eileen continues to welcome new residents and more Woodcrest residents are coming to the Senior Center. There is a planned Thanksgiving lunch on Nov. 18

Old Business: none

New Business. None

Tim moved and Dory seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 3:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Ailene Henry secretary

Minutes not official until approved at subsequent meeting.