

Town of Somers

Meeting of Advisory Committee for Seniors

January 10 2017

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

Audience: Tina Tooley

The meeting was called to order at 1:32 pm by chairman Deanna Schuetz.

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

Committee Updates:

a. Chairman's Report:

I. Senior Center Conduct Policy: Deanna met with the first selectman and the town attorney and examined policies from other senior centers about how to deal with inappropriate conduct in the senior center. The attorney advised Deanna to meet with the Senior Club president if the offending person is part of the Senior Club, not to meet with the person directly. An official policy will be drafted by the town attorney.

II. Upcoming Senior Center Trips/Events/Programs: Deanna distributed a list of January and February events and trips. Complete list is available on request. Evergreen Health Care Center has confirmed that they will do memory screenings on Feb. 24. Deanna contacted the high school Beta Club and guidance dep't about technology classes with some success. They are working on a schedule.

b. Meals on Wheels: Program is going well. We discussed how to deal with inclement weather so volunteer safety is protected and clients receive meals. Before a storm clients have been contacted to be sure they have adequate food in case deliveries can't be made.

c. Senior Support: Pat is in touch with 13 people and will continue to be in touch with them.

d. Senior Club: Dory reported that she has reexamined the membership list and removed names of people who have not signed up and paid dues for 2016. There are now 155 active members and 61 pending. She said a letter will go out soon to members stating that dues should be paid by Jan. 31, 2017 and also listing the benefits members can expect from being a club member. They are designing a new application form for new members and each member will have a membership card.

The Executive Board looked at the IRS rules for a 501c7 organization and felt that they met the requirements. The Board continues to work on revising the by-laws and hopes to have them completed for a vote at their next meeting Feb. 14 and to present them to the membership at their Feb. 22 meeting. There was a concern that the membership should see the by-laws and have a chance to think about the changes before voting. We again talked about the advisability of a Senior Club monthly newsletter to keep members informed.

Deanna expressed concern again about a private club meeting in a town building. We discussed whether Senior Club events should be advertised in the Senior Center

newsletter. At present an asterisk denotes events sponsored by the Senior Club. Tim moved and Phyllis seconded the motion that events sponsored by the Senior Club be indicated as such in the newsletter and this should remain so for three months.

e. **Publicity:** No report.

f. **Woodcrest:** Eileen continues to welcome new residents and reported that all apartments are full.

Old Business: none

New Business: Elaine reported that committee members have not received a letter from the town reappointing them to the committee for the coming year. Deanna will contact the selectmen about this.

Phyllis asked if a bus trip could be scheduled for Buckland Hills Mall. There will be no local bus trips until March because of uncertain weather and because both buses are frequently used daily, bus trips may have to be reconsidered.

Moved by Tim and seconded by Dory, the meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted
Ailene Henry secretary

Minutes not official until approved at subsequent meeting.