

Town of Somers
Meeting of Advisory Committee for Seniors
April 9, 2019

Present: Pat Bachetti, Dori Bynack, Phyllis Gwilliam, Ailene Henry, Carol Sarrantonio, Deanna Schuetz, Tina Toohey

Absent: Joan Sizer, Steve Getman,

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

2. Corrections to 03 12 19 minutes: In Transportation paragraph: The 2006 bus was sold for \$1700. The new budget was cut by \$10,000. After the start of the new fiscal year, July 1, there will probably be no more trips with a town bus. Tina moved and Carol seconded the motion that the 03 12 19 minutes be approved as amended.

3: Audience: Florence Hurley. Tina moved and Dory seconded the motion that the meeting be open to audience participation.

4. Committee Updates: Deanna reported that the numbers for Mohegan Sun trips are dwindling. There are trips planned for April, June, August and October. Need to assess viability of these trips given reduced numbers.

The Town of Somers Recreation Department has a communication coordinator whose services are available to other town departments. The Senior Center and Human Services Dep't will take advantage of this to publicize events and services.

The Policies and Procedures manual is almost done. The committee hopes to present this at our May meeting. After any suggestions for changes, it will be submitted to the Board of Selectmen. Thanks to Deanna, Joan, Pat and Phyllis for their work on this.

Deanna distributed the list of many Senior Center events for April, May and June. At upcoming Healthy Breakfasts there will be health related programs; May 16 – Stroke Awareness, June 6 – hearing tests. On June 27 there will be a bus trip to the Thimble islands.

Phyllis reported her progress in speaking with town officials about affordable housing for seniors. She received a letter from First Selectman Bud Knorr saying in part, "The Board of Selectmen, in conjunction with the Zoning Committee, has undertaken a top to bottom review of our existing zoning regulations with the objective of finding ways to stimulate economic development in support of the 2005/2015 POCD including opportunities for development to address the need for seniors to age in place." There will be a public meeting with opportunity for seniors to offer support and opinions. No date mentioned for a meeting.

Senior Club: 202 members. Party on July 3.

Memorial Ideas: Several suggestions were made for ways to honor deceased friends of the Senior Center. Consensus was to continue providing copies of obituaries at the Senior Center. Memorial donations to the Senior Center are recognized when used for special purposes.

Meals on Wheels: Numbers continue to be stable. There are occasional complaints but overall happy with the service provided by Hometown Kitchen. Pat continues to send cards to MOWs recipients for special occasions.

5. Upcoming Meeting dates: At our next scheduled meeting, May 14, Deanna will be unavailable. She will speak with Pat about chairing the meeting.

Pat moved and Dory seconded the motion that we not have meetings in July and August. Motion carried.

Tina moved and Carol seconded the motion that our meeting be adjourned at 2:36 p.m.

Next meeting May 14.

Respectfully submitted

Ailene Henry secretary

Minutes not official until approved at subsequent meeting.

