

SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes

Thursday, April 17, 2014

Present: Kathi Liberman, Kathy Bagley, Christine Taylor, Lisa Galipo, Tony Martino, Barbara Higbee, Agnes Bolasevich, Chris Skowronek, Adele Antoniou, Joe Mehan, Claire Mehan

The meeting was called to order at 3:10pm. A motion was made by Claire Mehan and seconded by Adele Antoniou to accept the minutes of the March meeting. The minutes were accepted.

Old Business:

Lisa Galipo reported the SCAC account has a balance of \$997 after paying for the April Rare Reminder ad. She anticipates we will incur \$300 in additional charges for the May, June & July Rare Reminder ads. The Committee also allocated \$150 for the "Happy Trails" event and for the Volunteer Recognition event. This will leave a balance of \$397 at the end of the fiscal year. The group discussed what to do with this money. Lisa reported that she remains interested in obtaining a license from the Motion Picture Licensing Association to show movies at the Senior Center. A license costs \$310 for a year. The group inquired if any equipment is needed to show a movie. Lisa noted that she used her personal DVD player from home to show one movie in the past. Claire Mehan made a motion that the remaining \$397 of the SCAC budget be used to obtain a license to show movies at the Senior Center and to purchase a DVD player. The motion was seconded by Adele Antoniou and approved by the Committee.

New Business:

Kathi Liberman updated the committee regarding the work of the planning committee for the spring SCAC event. Vendors that have accepted our invitation to attend the event currently include the Wethersfield Chamber of Commerce, Dept of Agriculture, AAA, Friendship Tours, the Nature Center, Main St Creamery & Café, Fascia's Chocolates of Waterbury, Woody's Hot Dogs of Hartford, Jake's Wayback Burgers of Rocky Hill, Dalice Elizabeth Winery of Preston, the Wadsworth Atheneum, the New Britain Museum of American Art, the Mashantucket Pequot Museum and Dinosaur State Park. Kathy reported that we cannot have beer or wine tasting at this event. Lisa reported that because of this, the Old Burnside Brewing Co will not attend but the Dalice Elizabeth Winery is still coming.

Lisa distributed an updated promotional flyer indicating the current list of vendors attending. She will also send it electronically to all Committee members and email it to Tom Hemphill for inclusion on the Town's web page, event list. She noted Senator Fonfara's office has yet to confirm they will provide a mailing to Wethersfield seniors about the event. She noted both Senators Doyle & Fonfara wish to speak at the event.

Committee Reports:

Council Liaison:

Tony Martino reported that the Town Council continues to work on the budget. They are currently meeting with all Town department heads and the Town Manager and Superintendent. Tony noted that the next Council meeting on Monday at 7pm is open to the public for comment on the budget.

Wethersfield Housing Authority: Kathi Liberman reported

- The Housing Authority is gearing up for the rent rebate application season.
- Kathi continues to have funds from CHFA that is allowing special programs for residents.
- The annual Carlson Forum is scheduled for 6/5 and the keynote speaker will be Dr. Gary Blick. The topic is "Compassion and Choice" and discussion will center around the 'right to die' issue.

Clergy report:

Chris Skowronek reported that his Church has an upcoming tag sale. He also noted that a pastor of First Church, Mike McDowell, who runs a senior ministry, is retiring.

Elderly Services Coordinator/Municipal Agent: Chris Taylor reported

- The Department of Social & Youth Services is concluding energy assistance applications on May 1.
- The Department has begun accepting Rent Rebate applications and will continue through 10/1/14.
- The CT Master's Games will be held May 17 & 18 in New Britain for those aged 30-90 and the deadline to register is 5/17.
- Chris passed around flyers advertising NCAAA's annual senior essay contest, a list of the Commission on Aging's legislative priorities, a free dental clinic at the XL Center on 4/25 & 26, and several upcoming mental health forums.
- She noted the homeowners' tax relief program ends May 15.

People with Disabilities: Chris Taylor reported

- As a result of discussion regarding dial-a-ride services, a survey will go out to dial-a-ride customers when they re-register in July asking which local stores they would like to see on the dial-a-ride schedule.
- Chris reported that Natalie reviewed the Special Olympics programs planned.
- Chris reported that the Jets club which recently won an award will be invited to the next meeting for Persons with Disabilities

Wethersfield Senior Club

- Agnes reported that the club has set the date for their installation of officers' banquet. It will be held on 6/11.

Senior Center: Lisa Galipo reported

- Lisa updated the group regarding ongoing Senior Center programs and her desire to include a dance and art class to the fall schedule depending upon the outcome of the Senior Center budget request.

It was decided the Committee would forego a May meeting in light of the “Happy Trails” event. Kathi will notify the Town Clerk. A motion was made to adjourn the meeting by Barbara Higbee and seconded by Joe Mehan. The meeting was adjourned at 3:37pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Galipo