

**MINUTES**  
**SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE**

May 9, 2008

**ROLL CALL**

Present:   Andy Kehr, Chairman                                 Sheila Franklin, Secretary  
              Betty Bader   Rose Rider  
              Harry Colgan, TB Liaison                         Judy Walsh  
              Jennifer Fivelsdal

Also Present:   Dick Franklin

Absent:     Jeanne Duntz   Barbara Jeck  
              Carl Dowden   Kelly Mosher

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Andy Kehr called the meeting to order at 9:38 AM.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES, APRIL 11, 2008 MEETING**

Andy asked if there were any questions about the Minutes or any corrections. As none were made, he made a motion to accept the Minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Rose and all were in favor.

**MONTHLY REPORT TO TOWN BOARD**

Andy shared with the committee copies of his monthly report to the Town Board. These reports will henceforth be filed in the Minutes Book of the Committee.

**RED HOOK COMMONS**

Andy said that Polish and Hungarian translators are needed for residents of Red Hook Commons. They would also like someone to teach basic computer techniques and Internet skills to the residents. Betty said that the high school has Adult Education computer classes and suggested that perhaps someone from the school might volunteer. Dick said that a computer science major at Bard might be interested. Jennifer added that one of the Bard students might be interested in translating and said that she would look into that. Dick said that he would send an e-mail to Leon Botstein, the President of the College.

Betty, Judy and Rose will be volunteering to go to Red Hook Commons to provide information for the residents. The program will be initiated by Rose on Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup> at 10:00 AM., with Betty going on May 28<sup>th</sup> and Judy on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

Andy mentioned that on June 3, 2008 at 10:00 A.M. there will be a ribbon cutting ceremony at Red Hook Commons to commemorate the opening of the second phase of the project.

### **TELEPHONE EXTENSION**

Harry said that he had spoken about the telephone extension to Ted Kudzy, but that he had not yet received an answer. He said that Sue Crane had expressed her concern regarding coverage of the line. She would like to know who will handle it and whether messages will be picked up and answered promptly. Betty said that perhaps people could work on a two week basis, picking up calls and acting as coordinator. She said that if anyone is in doubt about the proper response to a call, it could be referred to the OFA.

Harry felt that calls should be checked and answered daily. Betty suggested that 48 hours might be more possible. Andy said that he would like to see everyone involved. Betty said that she would be happy to handle the calls initially for the group to see how much would be involved. Sheila said that if the extension is located in the ZBA office, she could take any calls which might come in when she is there. However, she said that she is there only two or three days a week and does not have a fixed schedule. Dick said that the ZBA office is shared with the ZRC. Therefore, the ZRC clerk would need to know about the line and the line would have to be a dedicated line. Andy suggested that the matter be tabled until next month, when more members would hopefully be present. The key question is how will we handle the calls in a consistent manner. He said that the Committee must be prepared to make an ongoing commitment.

### **DIAL A RIDE**

Rose said that she had called Nina Lynch and was referred to Mary Kay Dolan, the OFA liaison for Dial A Ride. She presented ridership data for 2004 to 2008. She said that there is a bus at Red Hook Commons every Thursday at 9:30 AM, but she did not know if all the residents were aware of that. In response to questioning, Rose said that she did not yet have an answer from the Rhinebeck Committee regarding Dial A Ride; however they are thinking about it. She will check with Marcia regarding this issue.

Andy said that Mary Kay Dolan has been speaking to groups about Dial A Ride. Betty said that Susan Davidson, the Sr. Transportation Coordinator for Dutchess County, has also been speaking to groups about Dial A Ride. She thought that Susan would be happy to go to Red Hook Commons and speak to the residents as a group. Betty said that she could call Susan and give her the telephone number of Margaret Sheehy, the manager of Red Hook Commons. It was mentioned that Rosemary Zengen is on the Advisory Board of Dial A Ride and is the Town of Red Hook representative for Dial A Ride.

Andy showed the group a copy of Henry Christopher's Barrytown Gazette in which there was an article in the Town Supervisor's Corner regarding Dial A Ride. He said that the OFA is having meetings regarding the needs of the aging. Although these appear to be directed at town administrators, he felt that it would be appropriate for him to try to attend one of these meetings.

### **JOINT EXPO WITH RHINEBECK**

Judy said that an e-mail has been sent to everyone regarding the date for the meeting with the Rhinebeck Committee. It will be on May 19<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM at the Rhinebeck

Town Hall. Judy, Kelly, Rose and Andy will attend. Sheila will be present to take Minutes. This will be an initial planning meeting.

### **PANDA PROGRAM**

Andy said that he had spoken to Susan Simon, the PANDA representative for the Town of Red Hook. She explained that there is equipment available, but indicated that we would be responsible for going out and recording the material for our show. Dick said that he had spoken to Mary Chang, the station manager for PANDA and also to Fred Cartier, who does videography for the station. He said that there are two possibilities to consider: 1) the scroll, which could contain telephone numbers and other information; and 2) formatting a show. He said that if the Committee took photos and provided appropriate text, PANDA indicated that they would have no problem formatting a program for us. Alternatively, we could film the program, give them a DVD and they could run it. Andy asked the group whether they thought we should do this and give the material to them rather having them come with us. Dick said that Fred Cartier could come with us and help us. Andy indicated that Susan also said that she would help.

Andy felt that the starting point should be a layout. Dick said that if we lay out our ideas, we could send that to them. He suggested filming at the Expo. We could interview people there, he said. Service providers could be asked to describe the services provided by their organizations, e.g. EPIC, Meals on Wheels, Food Pantry, etc. Rose suggested that perhaps the people who talk about Dial A Ride might be interested in being part of the program. Andy suggested that people bring ideas to the next meeting. He also said that he would send out an e-mail.

Andy asked what the time slots are and Dick said they are half an hour or an hour. Andy said that describing Dial A Ride would only take two or three minutes. Dick suggested putting up a map showing where Dial A Ride goes. Betty ascertained that this would only be a one shot effort. However, Dick said that it could be shown many times. He also said that there could be a call in while the show is being run. Betty suggested showing the Exercise Group. Rose suggested the use of digital pictures as this would be easier to do than asking Fred for help. Harry said that Sue Simon has hand held equipment, whereas Fred has heavy studio equipment. Dick said that the OFA should be included. Harry said that PANDA has been working with High School students and it might be possible to get a student to help. Dick said that it might be a school assignment for a High School student or a Marist student.

Andy asked the group to think about the possibilities and send their ideas to him or to Dick. Then we can organize the ideas and do the filming. We need to identify the activities/programs in Red Hook about which we want to heighten awareness.

## **NEWSLETTER**

Andy said that he had spoken to Henry Christopher and had invited him to come to the meeting today. He also told him that there was a seat available on the Committee. However, Mr. Christopher had a special meeting today and was not able to attend. Andy said that he will meet with Mr. Christopher before the next Committee meeting.

Andy asked if anyone had brought any text for the Newsletter. Judy handed in a write up about Community Action. Betty had a schedule of the Library hours and spoke about the program for pick up and return of books for homebound individuals. Andy said that he had contacted St. John's. They have a small program and do not want it advertised. Dick contacted the VFW and will provide the name and telephone number of a contact person. Betty will see Mary Ann about the Library and will provide the summer hours. She had an OFA brochure about health insurance counseling which also lists the primary OFA services. Rose had other brochures from the OFA. Andy said that we need one or two primary OFA contacts or a contact for each service. Betty suggested an article on drug plans for the Fall.

## **NEW BUSINESS LIBRARY PROGRAMS**

Kelly received an e-mail from Bonny Corrado, the Director of the Tivoli Free Library. They are trying to set up activities, particularly for Seniors. Andy said that she was unable to attend today's meeting, but he would like to have her attend the next meeting. The Library, he said, would be a very good resource. He indicated that he would speak with someone from the Red Hook Library. Betty said that Mary Ann Eagan is Director of the Red Hook Library and she would tell Mary Ann to call Andy.

## **WINTER HEATING & FOOD NEEDS**

Dick brought up the food and heating problems which can be expected when winter comes again. Betty mentioned the HEAP program. Dick said that there are income guidelines which are too low, making many needy people ineligible. Judy suggested that the newsletter could include places people can go for help. Rose said that we need to get a line on which agencies help when people fall through the cracks and need help. There are charitable organizations which people who are desperate can go to, e.g. food banks, etc.

Andy asked for a volunteer to research assistance programs for food and heating. Betty agreed to do that. She said that she did not know if the churches would like to have their programs advertised as some of them are quite small and they would not want to be overwhelmed. Andy said that we would need to have permission to include any program in the Newsletter or brochure. He asked if the Committee felt it was necessary to have a Permission Form. Betty said that if we have a telephone line, we might get permission to refer people on an individual basis even if we cannot advertise the program. Andy asked the group to gather ideas and research contacts.

**NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held on Friday, June 13, 2008 at 9:30 AM in the Town Hall.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion to adjourn was made by Andy and seconded by Betty . As all were in agreement, the meeting adjourned at 10:57 A.M.

Minutes submitted by Sheila Franklin  
Secretary, Senior Services Committee

