

MINUTES
SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

August 15, 2008

ROLL CALL

Present: Andy Kehr, Chairman Sheila Franklin, Secretary
 Carl Dowden Judy Walsh
 Rose Rider

Also Present: Dick Franklin

Absent: Betty Bader Kelly Mosher
 Jeanne Duntz Harry Colgan, TB Liaison
 Jennifer Fivelsdal

CALL TO ORDER

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, JULY 11, 2008 MEETING

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

MONTHLY REPORT TO TOWN BOARD

Andy shared with the committee copies of his monthly report to the Town Board. A motion was made by Judy to accept the Report. The motion was seconded by Carl and all were in favor.

RED HOOK COMMONS / DIAL A RIDE

Andy said that he has 120 Dial A Ride leaflets ready to be delivered to Margaret Sheehy at Red Hook Commons. He had a discussion with her and she had no objection to the distribution of the leaflets provided that she personally places them under the residents' doors. Andy said that he plans to go to Red Hook Commons after the meeting to deliver the leaflets to her. He suggested that the Committee monitor the response to this initiative by getting statistics on ridership. He will make this contact. He mentioned that the statistics generally start from two months prior and go back.

Carl said that a few months ago Tom Mansfield sent out a newsletter which included information on Dial A Ride. He said that Tom paid for it himself because he did not wish to use public funds for this purpose. The mailing probably went to everyone, not just seniors.

Rose mentioned that Community Action has gotten a response to providing information on Dial A Ride. Judy said that a lot of people in the community do not know about Community Action. Rose said that their telephone number is listed under Dutchess County in the phone book. Judy mentioned their Extra Helpings program, which costs

\$22 and provides a large amount of food. There are no income guidelines for this program; it is open to anyone. Judy said that they have discontinued their used clothing program, but that they coordinate a lot of services. For example, they will help people make out HEAP applications. They work in association with Dutchess County, but they are a separate not for profit organization. They will be at the Expo.

NEWSLETTER

Andy said that the newsletter will focus on contact information relative to community resources and consistent activities. He handed out a draft which included a listing of: personal emergency response systems providers; medical equipment suppliers; pharmacies; Home Health agencies; assistive living centers/adult homes; skilled nursing facilities; adult day care programs; miscellaneous resources (including local hospitals) and local publications listing community activities. He said that he has verified all the telephone numbers listed in the draft. He asked the Committee to review the draft for corrections or suggestions for additional listings. He said that he plans to add Dial A Ride and Royalty Caregivers.

A discussion of the draft ensued. Carl asked if Northern Dutchess Paramedics should be included. He said that although they are dispatched by 911, people do call them directly as well. Andy agreed that they should be included. He said that they are expanding and will be covering all of Dutchess County as well as southern Columbia County. Dick suggested inclusion of ambulette as well as ambulance services.

Rose suggested the inclusion of the Loop Bus. Carl asked if the services offered by Community Action should be listed. He felt that if you just list Community Action, people will not know what they do or where they are located. Rose felt that the Extra Helpings program should be listed. Andy said that he would call and find out about their current programs. It was decided that there should be a telephone number, address and blurb briefly describing each OFA and Community Action program mentioned, but that detailed information would not be included at this time.

Rose suggested the inclusion of the Mediation Center of Dutchess County. They mediate issues relative to neighbors, family members, wills, etc. Sheila said that the local newspapers have a listing of self help and support groups. Andy felt that those groups would be too numerous to include. Sheila suggested simply saying that the newspapers have an extensive listing. Dick mentioned that United Way is cutting back and may close the Senior Center in Rhinebeck.

Andy said that Kelly Mosher has all the activities information and she will be formatting it. Betty sent Kelly her information and Rose sent information from "About Town." Andy stressed that he wants the group to focus on consistent activities. He will contact Kelly and ask her if she can get the activities information written up and then send out an e-mail draft to the members of the committee. The committee can then review the material via e-mails and he will submit it to Henry Christopher. He suggested that perhaps Mr. Christopher could come to the next meeting.

Rose thought that the Expo would be a good place to distribute the Newsletter; however Judy felt that it was unrealistic to expect it to be ready by then.

JOINT EXPO WITH RHINEBECK

Rose reported on the meeting with the Rhinebeck Committee which she and Judy had attended. The Expo is going to be sponsored by Ulster Savings Bank and Arbor Ridge, each of which will be contributing \$1,000. This money is needed for the rental of chairs, partitions, etc. Andy asked if the funding is sufficient and Rose responded in the affirmative. Carl said that he will bring it up at the next Rotary meeting.

Rose said that they have so many speakers that they need two rooms. Arbor Ridge wants to do a session and Ulster Savings Bank wants to do two sessions on reverse mortgages. Wendy Rudder of the Alzheimers Association will be doing a program on identifying symptoms of Alzheimers. John Beale, Director of the Dutchess County Office for the Aging, will be doing a round table on identifying issues of concern to seniors. Northern Dutchess Hospital will be doing blood pressure measurement.

The Expo will open at 9:30 A.M. with coffee, donuts and welcoming remarks. They are planning on buying donut holes from Dunkin Donuts. Presentations will be made at: 10:00 – 10:45; 11:00 – 11:45 and 1:00 – 1:45. Lunch will be between 12:00 and 1:00 P.M. Hannaford and Stop N Shop have both been asked for sandwiches and salad for 150 people. They have both agreed to do something. J. B. Peale has agreed to provide coffee. Judy will be taking care of the paper plates.

There will be a handout folder. On the front will be the logos of the two sponsors, with the name of the Committees at the top. The speakers will be listed on the inside of the flyer and the exhibitors will be listed on the back. At the present time, there are 21 exhibitors. Dick will be contacting Rebuilding Together to see if they are interested in participating.

The Expo will be held in Building A at the fairgrounds. Andy asked if people are needed to set up in the morning. Rose said that someone has to be there at 8:00 A.M. to make coffee. Set up of chairs will be at 3:00 P.M. the previous day. Andy asked Rose to send out an e-mail specifying what will be needed.

Rose said that the next joint planning meeting with the Rhinebeck Committee will be on August 27th at 11:00 A.M. Andy asked about PR for the event. Rose said that there will be a flyer and further advertising will be addressed at the next joint planning meeting.

Dick asked if there would be signs showing where people should park and where the event will be held. After discussion, it was decided that this information should be put in the announcement and that there should be a sign on the front fence directing people to the parking area.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday, Sept. 12, 2008 at 9:30 AM in the Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Carl and seconded by Judy. As all were in agreement, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 A.M.

Minutes submitted by Sheila Franklin
Secretary, Senior Services Committee