

MINUTES
SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

November 5, 2008

ROLL CALL

Present: Andy Kehr, Chairman Sheila Franklin, Secretary
 Betty Bader

Also Present: Dick Franklin

Absent: Carl Dowden Kelly Mosher
 Jeanne Duntz Rose Rider
 Jennifer Fivelsdal Judy Walsh
 Harry Colgan, TB Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Andy Kehr called the meeting to order at 9:21 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, SEPTEMBER 12, 2008 MEETING

Andy asked if there were any modifications or corrections to the Minutes. Hearing none, Betty made a motion to accept the Minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Andy and the motion was passed.

BROCHURE

Sheila presented drafts of the two brochure formats to the Committee: the single page format which will go on the website and the double page format for the printed brochure. She said that all the corrections and additions suggested by the Committee have been made with the exception of the information on the Historical Society and AARP, which have not yet been received. Sheila said she spoke with Debbie Marks, Office Manager and Debbie wishes the Committee to have the brochure printed rather than Xerox it at the Town Hall and use the town's folding machine. She wants to minimize wear and tear on the Xerox and folding machines.

The Committee reviewed the two drafts. Betty said that she will continue to be the contact for the Tivoli Library and will notify the Committee if there are changes to the information in the brochure. She also mentioned that the Library has a newsletter. She suggested that the brochure should be dated; however she did not feel it would be necessary to destroy the previous undated copies. Sheila suggested that it be dated "Winter, 2008 – 2009".

Andy said that once the Committee agrees on the website version, it can be sent to the website manager, Dick Wambach and any subsequent changes can be e-mailed to him later. He said that the reminder about Medicare at the end of the brochure should be removed after December 31st. As the Office for the Aging review of the Medicare plans is a service which is offered each year, it was decided that the notice for this should be

withdrawn each year when it is over at the end of December and re-inserted the following June.

Betty said she thought the Committee should have a distribution list for the brochures. The following was decided upon: Town Hall; Village Hall; banks; libraries; Northern Dutchess Hospital; Red Hook Commons; Meals on Wheels; Provost Park in Tivoli; Hannaford and IGA.

The Committee decided upon the following plan. Sheila will make the last corrections and then e-mail the brochure to Dick Wambach, who will put it on the Town website. Andy will e-mail Rose for the information on AARP and the Historical Society. Once the final information is added, Sheila will e-mail a revised copy to Dick Wambach for the website and get a hard copy to Andy for printing. Andy will arrange for approximately 200 to 250 copies to be made. The limiting factor regarding the number of copies to be made will be the cost. Andy will obtain a cost estimate from Copy Cat and then will go to the Town to find what funds are available to cover payment for the printing. Following that, the Committee will make a final decision regarding the distribution. Andy estimated that the project should be completed by mid to late December.

NEW BUSINESS

LIFT AND ASSIST CALLS FROM RED HOOK COMMONS TO THE RHFD

Dick brought up a concern regarding the large number of requests which are being received by the Red Hook Fire Department for lift and assist at Red Hook Commons. He felt that this was a serious drain on the resources of the Fire Department and their ability to respond to other local emergencies. He said that the staff at Red Hook Commons should either have someone available to perform this service or they should set something up through the County or through an ambulance service. He said that this is what is done in Rhinebeck. Andy replied that Red Hook Commons is not a health facility or a skilled nursing facility. Their focus is not on health and they do not have any mandate to provide such services. He did, however, feel that Ken Kearney could be contacted in regard to this concern.

Dick said that Dutchess County has a protocol for falls and they do not use 911. Andy said that if Dick puts together a letter with contacts, he would bring it to Red Hook Commons. The contacts might help them to put together a program to handle this problem. Dick agreed to get the resource information to Andy and Andy will go to Red Hook Commons and talk to the Administrator or to Ken Kearney. Andy felt that providing this type of help would fall within the purview of the group as the Senior Services Committee. The Committee would be acting as a liaison regarding senior-related issues.

FOOD PANTRIES

Dick expressed concern that the local food pantries are running out of food. Sheila said that Community Action asked her to remove the Food Pantry from their list of services in the brochure because they are running out of food. Dick said that at St. Christopher's,

the number of families receiving assistance from the Food Pantry has increased from ten to sixty. People are going there from other communities and they have to send these people back to their own communities. St. Christopher's opens their Food Pantry once a month and at Thanksgiving they offer sixty complete meals which are donated.

Betty said that there are no Food Pantries listed in the brochure because none of the churches/community organizations felt that they had enough food to serve additional people. Andy concluded that the Committee will act as a resource as problems arise.

PANDA & LONG TERM PROJECT

Andy tabled discussion of PANDA and long term projects until the next meeting, when more members should be present.

NEXT MEETING

There will be no meeting in December. Andy will send out an e-mail to determine when the January meeting will be held. Possibilities include Wednesday or Thursday morning and late Friday afternoon.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Betty and seconded by Andy. The meeting was adjourned at 10:35 A.M.

Minutes submitted by Sheila Franklin
Secretary, Senior Services Committee