

MINUTES
SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

March 5, 2009

ROLL CALL

Present:	Andy Kehr, Chairman	Sheila Franklin, Secretary
	Carl Dowden	Kelly Mosher
	Jeanne Duntz	Rose Rider
	Jennifer Fivelsdal	Judy Walsh
Also Present:	Robert McKeon, TB	
Absent:	Betty Bader	

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Andy Kehr called the meeting to order at 9:25 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, JANUARY 8, 2009 MEETING

Andy asked if there were any modifications or corrections to the Minutes. Hearing none, the committee accepted the Minutes as submitted.

BROCHURE

In regard to funding the reprinting of the brochure, Andy asked if the budget line for the committee had been ascertained. Rose said that it was \$150. However the line for secretarial support was \$1700 and only \$1000 had been used. Therefore the Committee could ask the Town Board to redirect \$500. After discussion, it was decided that changes to the brochure should be made in the Spring when Medicare Part D information would be available and there might be more town activities.

Rose said that the brochure had not been reviewed for awhile. Andy responded that it is on the website and asked the members to review it and come to the next meeting with their thoughts. When the brochure is revised, he added, a separate listing for Meals on Wheels will be included as it is a critical service and should be separated from the main OFA listing.

LIFT AND ASSIST CALLS FROM RED HOOK COMMONS TO THE RHFD

Andy said that he had made two telephone calls to the RHFD Chief and had left messages with a request to speak with him. Reviewing the issue, he said that there had been a concern that lift and assist calls from Red Hook Commons had been excessive. The Committee had agreed that although providing health care information was not within their purview, they are a body which could provide resource information. At present, it seems that calling 911 is the best option. However, the group is still seeking information about the calls from Red Hook Commons relative to those from the rest of the community. Andy said that he will e-mail information to the members when he gets it. To expedite matters, Bob gave Andy the cell phone number of the Fire Chief.

FOOD DRIVE

Carl reported that he had contacted Community Action and they can use everything, e.g. canned goods, non-perishable food items, paper goods, diapers and other baby items, etc. Andy said that he had contacted both the Girl Scouts and the Boy Scouts. They are presently conducting a food drive. However, they would support the efforts of the Committee and are amenable to an April or May date. There are about eighty Scouts. Each gets a bag and goes to one or two neighbors with a flyer. They leave the bags and arrange to pick them up after the neighbors fill them. Andy said that he would speak to the pack headmaster and the cub headmaster, but felt that the Drive could be held at the end of April. He suggested that perhaps he, or another Committee member, could go to one of the Scout meetings and give a short talk about what the Committee does. Rose suggested providing cookies/other refreshments and limiting the talk to five or ten minutes.

Andy asked if the members had made any other contacts. Carl said that the Interact Club will be conducting a drive near the end of March and he did not feel that they could do another one right away. Jeanne said that she and Betty had spoken to the Red Hook Seniors and they were supportive. One of the Seniors who has a pick up truck offered to deliver the donated items. They want to know the details of what is wanted, when, where and how it will be organized. Andy suggested that there might be drop box where donations could be left. Flyers would have to be made for the event.

Andy suggested a May date for the Seniors portion of the drive. He said perhaps the drive could be held for two weeks at the end of April or May. Jeanne said that the Seniors are taking a trip one week in May; however the other three weeks would be OK. She said that meetings are held each Tuesday at 1:00 PM at the Fire House. After discussion it was decided that a flyer could be made up, there could be a collection box at the Fire House and donated items could be taken to Community Action at the close the meeting. Bob offered to help transport the donated items.

Andy summarized the discussion saying that the drive will be co-sponsored by the Committee and the Red Hook Seniors. He set the drive dates as April 21, April 28 and May 1, 2009. Donated items can be dropped off between 1:00 and 3:00 P.M. during the Seniors' meeting at the Red Hook Firehouse. Carl stressed that donated food items must be non-perishable. Andy said that a flyer would have to drawn up and asked for a volunteer to work on this. Rose offered to do a simple flyer.

Sheila offered to write a short notice and e-mail it to PANDA for inclusion in their scroll. She will also put up a notice on the Town Hall bulletin board and send a notice to Dick Wambach to be put on the website. Jeanne will be the communication link with the Red Hook Seniors. She will also tell the members of the Exercise and Brain Games groups in both Red Hook and Tivoli.

Andy said that the next meeting of the Committee will be on April 2nd and there will still be a few weeks left for planning. Jennifer said that the Committee needs to coordinate with Community Action to be sure that they will be open when the Committee plans to

transport the donated items. Carl said that he would contact them so that someone can be available to receive the goods. He will report back at the next meeting. Andy summarized the discussion, saying that Carl will be the liaison to Community Action and Bob will do the pick up and delivery. The Boy Scout drive will be the second drive. A flyer will be drawn up and someone from the Committee will talk to the boys and set a date for the drive.

Judy asked if the Committee wants to advertise so that people outside of the Seniors and the Scouts could participate. Sheila asked if the Committee wants to notify the newspapers. Jennifer offered to contact the Hudson Valley Sampler. Rose suggested notifying the Poughkeepsie Journal. Sheila offered to contact the news desks of the Journal and the Kingston Freeman. Andy said that the information about the Seniors drive could go on the website now, but asked Sheila and Jennifer to get back to him to get information regarding the Scout drive.

SENIOR READING PROGRAM

Andy reported that Donna Gaynor, the Principal, has had several people volunteer for the program. Jeanne said that she and Betty had both called and had gotten an answering machine. They left messages, but no one called back. Andy suggested calling again. Rose said that she announced the program at AARP. A few people took flyers, but no one said that they had volunteered. Rose said that she had also called and no one called back. At the next AARP meeting, Rose will ask if anyone else had the same experience.

At that time, Andy used his cell phone to call the telephone number in the flyer. He determined that the call was going to one of Donna's staff, Laurie in the K2 Office. He will speak to her. In the meantime, he suggested that people could call the main telephone number and not use the extension. He also said that the names of interested people could be given to him and he would maintain a list of names and telephone numbers.

Andy asked if the flyer could be put on the website. Sheila said that if it is e-mailed to her, she will have Dick Wambach put it on the website. Andy reported that Donna was very pleased with the response to the Snowflake Tea. Her goal was to interest seniors who do not have grandchildren at the school and 60% to 70% of those who attended met this criterion. Kelly said that she was there and they handed out a survey as well as information about the Read Aloud Program. It is an ongoing program and they plan to tape readings of books for the students.

MISSION STATEMENT

Andy said that at the last meeting the group had suggested words and phrases relative to the purpose and goals of the Committee. He offered to use those words and phrases to put together a few sentences to get the work started. He will have this done for the next meeting.

PANDA

Andy tabled discussion of the proposed PANDA project until Dick Franklin is present. Sheila will let Andy know if Dick can come to the next meeting.

TOWN TRANSPORTATION

Andy said that he had spoken to Linda Hunter, the contact person at Red Hook Commons, and she felt that it would be valuable to have a representative from Red Hook Commons on the Committee. She also said that they have a Newsletter and could put something about this in the Newsletter. Bob said that he had called her and suggested a meeting date, but had not had a call back. Andy asked Bob to let him know when he is able to set up an appointment.

NEW BUSINESS: POTLUCK CREATIVE ARTS

Andy said that he had received a letter from Mark Merritt of Potluck Creative Arts. Mr. Merritt offers piano lessons using the Simply Music technique. He is offering two free introductory lessons and felt that his program might be of particular interest to seniors. Andy asked the group if they felt that he should act on this letter. Kelly said that it is a for profit business; however there are for profit businesses listed in the Brochure and so it might be put in the Brochure. However, the group should determine whether they think it would benefit seniors. Carl suggested that Andy direct Mr. Merritt to the Red Hook Seniors and Red Hook Commons. Andy said that as the Committee is a resource group, he would have no problem with putting out this information.

After discussion, it was decided that Andy will let Mr. Merritt know that the Committee is a resource group and give him the telephone numbers of the senior groups and OFA and Rose will announce it at an AARP meeting. Andy will give Rose's address to Mr. Merritt.

There was a brief discussion about developing a disclaimer for the Brochure.

NEW BUSINESS: APPOINTMENTS

Bob announced that Rose and Kelly's terms on the Committee have ended as well as Andy's one year appointment as Chairman. He also noted that there are two vacant seats on the Committee. The Committee has ten members, each with a two year appointment.

MOTION TO RECOMMEND REAPPOINTMENT

Carl made a motion to recommend to the Town Board the reappointments of Andy, Rose and Kelly for another term as well as the reappointment of Andy as Chairman. The motion was seconded by Judy and all were in favor.

Andy suggested that the vacancies be addressed at the next Committee meeting. Judy said that she had a candidate for one of the vacancies. Bob suggested that it might be helpful to have someone on the Committee from Red Hook Commons.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on April 2, 2009 at 9:15 AM in the Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 A.M.

Minutes submitted by Sheila Franklin
Secretary, Senior Services Committee