

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

May 6, 2009

**ROLL CALL**

Present:       Andy Kehr, Chairman                       Sheila Franklin, Secretary  
                  Betty Bader                               Susan Goldstein  
                  Carl Dowden                                 Rose Rider  
                  Jeanne Duntz

Also Present: Robert McKeon, TB liaison; Dick Franklin

Absent:        Jennifer Fivelsdal, Kelly Mosher, Judy Walsh

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Andy Kehr called the meeting to order at 9:22 A.M. He handed out copies of his monthly report to the Town Board.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES, APRIL 2, 2009 MEETING**

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

**BROCHURE**

Andy asked if copies of the brochure had been given to Sheila as had been discussed at the last meeting. Sheila said that she had not received any copies.

Betty suggested that if only a few are needed, perhaps they could be run off at the Town Hall. Sheila said that she would keep in touch with Sue McCann to find out how many copies she has and provide additional copies as needed. It was decided to keep the brochure all white for the time being rather than have a colored first page.

**LIFT AND ASSIST CALLS FROM RED HOOK COMMONS TO THE RHFD**

Andy said that he had spoken to Pete Coon, the Fire Chief, and there were 53 calls from Red Hook Commons to the Red Hook Fire Department versus approximately 300 from the rest of the town. He did not have a breakdown of the types of calls from the Commons; however he felt that the Fire Company was not being taxed by excessive calls from the Commons. Bob asked what vehicle the Fire Department takes when they respond to such a call. Carl said that they just take the ambulance and personnel. Andy asked how many people would respond to a lift and assist call and Dick said that it is always at least two people.

Andy said that Pete told him he would get back to him when he has a breakdown of the types of calls but felt that this was not a pressing matter. Dick noted that this issue was a problem with the previous administration of the Fire Department; however, with the new

administration, the situation has changed. Andy said he told Pete to let him know if this should become a problem.

### **FOOD DRIVE**

Andy announced that the Food Drive of April 21<sup>st</sup> and April 28<sup>th</sup> had been a tremendous success. Janice of Community Action said that the donations totaled over \$1000 worth of food and paper goods. He applauded everyone on the Committee for their efforts. The PR was excellent. He said that at the Town Board meeting he had thanked the RHFD for letting the Committee and the Seniors use their facilities. He also thanked the Committee members and the community for their generous response. Janice is very grateful to the Red Hook Seniors and the Senior Services Committee and would like to write a thank you letter.

Jeanne said that the Seniors also want to thank the community. Sheila suggested posting the thank you letter on the website and at the Town Hall. Betty felt that Bard should be thanked for their contributions and Bob said that the school should not be left out as they cooperated in sending the notice through their kid mail. Andy suggested that a joint letter from the Seniors and the Senior Services Committee be drafted to thank everyone. That letter could then go to the RHFD, the school, Bard, the town website, Town Hall, etc. Betty agreed to e-mail Andy the address of the President of the Red Hook Seniors so that they can draft a letter together. After they have agreed upon the letter, Andy will e-mail it to the members of the Committee for comment.

Jeanne suggested using the Fire Department sign to post a thank you and Dick said that he would take care of that. Andy again praised the Committee for getting the word out to the community about the Drive in a timely and effective manner.

### **SENIOR READING PROGRAM**

Andy informed the Committee that there are now five volunteers for the program and Donna Gaynor, the Principal, is elated because it is a manageable size for her. The volunteers have taken a tour and met with the librarian. A sign up calendar is being developed for May and June.

### **MISSION STATEMENT**

Andy asked the Committee if it had reviewed the March Minutes and could contribute any ideas to provide a foundation for writing the mission statement. Susan had done some research and read two mission statements for other towns which she felt could be helpful. Drawing from these statements, Sheila said she felt that the inclusion of the word “initiatives” would highlight the activities of the Committee. Betty suggested the inclusion of the words “community resource.” Andy felt that resource was the most important word. Discussion followed regarding the various segments of the material presented by Susan. It was agreed that the word “guidance” should not be used and the word “resource” should be modified by the word “information.”

Andy recommended that the Committee take home the draft of the statement and the information provided by Susan and either send e-mails with comments or bring

comments to the next meeting. Susan will e-mail the material to Andy so that he can add the comments of the Committee.

### **PANDA**

Dick reported on the meeting he and Sheila had with PANDA. Due to limitations on funding, the position of the Station Manager whom they had met with has been eliminated. There is therefore no one with the technical expertise to train others to use the station's equipment. Thus, anyone wishing to air a program must bring a finished product to the station. They can allow the Committee to use their small studio for purposes of filming, but they can provide no technical assistance. The Committee will have to arrange to do everything. However, Sheila advised that they were very interested in the programs which the Committee is proposing and felt that they are just the type programming which PANDA would like to air.

Dick said that he is looking into the possibility of engaging Bard in the project. He will talk to the head of the Media Department. He is also going to be talking to the President of PANDA regarding equipment and editing. He said that New Paltz undertook such a project to film the senior group which meets at the Dutch Reformed Church in Rhinebeck. They came with a full crew and an academic advisor. He also said that the High School might be asked to become involved as they, too, have a Media Program. Carl asked who is the PANDA representative at the Town Board meetings. Dick said he would e-mail her name to Andy. It was decided to delay writing to Judge Triebwasser about hosting the shows until the Committee has been able to do further planning.

Dick advised the Committee that PANDA now wants 14 days lead time for any announcements. Andy asked if the Committee felt that the High School should be approached as well as Bard. Dick said that, in view of other planned joint ventures, Bard may want to work with the High School. Andy will make contact with the High School.

### **TOWN TRANSPORTATION**

Bob is still trying to get a representative from Red Hook Commons for the Committee. Rose asked what the goal of the Committee would be. Andy said that it is to facilitate transportation in the Red Hook area. Sheila said that they are considering a small jitney/minibus which would make stops around town. Betty said that the problem is not getting around town; it is getting out of town. Dick said that the cost of such a project would be high and liability, insurance, etc. have to be considered. Betty said that the biggest drawback of Dial A Ride is the hours. They have to be back in Poughkeepsie by 4:00 PM. The other problem is that they cannot go outside of the County. The most successful program, she said, is the Friendship Program sponsored by the OFA which picks people up from their homes and takes them to the Center and shopping. Andy deferred further discussion until the next meeting as Bob had already left the meeting.

### **COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS**

Andy announced that the Town Board has approved all the appointments, but there is still one vacancy on the Committee. Dick offered to fill the vacancy and was supported by the members of the Committee. Andy will follow through.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **New Projects**

Andy listed the following new projects:

- Theft by Aides to Seniors
- Emergency Preparedness
- Another Food Drive (possibly in the summer)

### **Representative to Dial A Ride Advisory Board**

Andy announced that he had received a letter from Mary Kay Dolan, Aging Services Coordinator for the OFA, asking for someone to sit in on the Dial A Ride Advisory Board. He responded by offering to be the representative from the Committee. The group meets semi-annually and the next meeting is in October.

### **Economic Development Survey**

Andy said that he has received a survey regarding economic development from Michelle Martin, Chair of the Town of Red Hook Economic Development Task Force. The Task Force is using material from the Northern Dutchess Alliance, some of which was included with the letter. Andy will send the survey to the members via e-mail and will coordinate responses from the Committee.

### **Volunteer Fair**

Andy also mentioned the Volunteer Fair which was held on April 30<sup>th</sup>.

## **NEXT MEETING**

Andy said that the next meeting will be held on Thursday, June 4, 2009 at 9:15 AM in the Town Hall.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

Minutes submitted by Sheila Franklin  
Secretary, Senior Services Committee