

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

July 9, 2009

**ROLL CALL**

Present:   Andy Kehr, Chairman                   Sheila Franklin, Secretary  
              Betty Bader                         Richard Franklin  
              Kelly Mosher                        Rose Rider  
  Judy Walsh

Absent:    Carl Dowden, Jeanne Duntz, Jennifer Fivelsdal, Susan Goldstein

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chairman Andy Kehr called the meeting to order at 10:20 A.M.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES, JUNE 6, 2009 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 Judy and all were in favor.

**PANDA**

Andy said that he had spoken to Tim Fitzmaurice who oversees the radio station at the High School and he expressed interest relative to the Committee using the Red Hook High School site. He said that the stage layout would be a good arena for interviewing. However, he stipulated that such use would have to be during the day. He teaches a course on broadcasting and said that some students do an independent project as part of that course. However, no one has expressed interest in such a project at this time. Andy said that Mr. Fitzmaurice asked if he would call at the beginning of the school year and Andy will therefore be following up at that time.

Dick said that Peter Hutton of Bard had called him and said that he had passed Dick's telephone number on to Peggy Alesh, who would be calling him. However, Dick has not as yet heard from her. He will pursue the issue of community mindedness at Bard with Dr. Botstein, the President of the college. Andy mentioned that Red Hook High School is also trying to interface with Bard.

Andy summarized, saying that after he talks with Tim Fitzmaurice he will bring the issue back to the Committee to work out the details. In the meantime, Dick will continue to work on communicating with Bard.

**FOOD DRIVE**

Andy said that he has received a letter of thanks from Community Action. However, as it addressed to him personally, he is going to request that they address it to the Committee and send it again.

## **SENIOR READING PROGRAM**

Andy said that he has spoken to Donna Gaynor, the Principal. She said that there are four or five committed ladies who have volunteered for the program and it is very successful. The kids love it and so do the staff. Donna is very appreciative and asked Andy to thank the Committee. Andy added that the Committee should continue to make referrals to this program and tell possible volunteers that they need not participate every week.

## **MISSION STATEMENT**

Andy said that in his e-mail, he had asked the Committee members to review the proposed statement. He asked if anyone had any questions, additions or changes. The consensus was that the following version, which was accepted at the June meeting, was fine:

The mission of the Red Hook Senior Services Committee is to serve as a resource for assessing the needs of the senior community, gathering information regarding how to address those needs and promoting the social, economic and health related services which impact upon the safety, independence and well-being of seniors.

### Motion to Accept Proposed Mission Statement

Betty made a motion to accept the proposed mission statement.  
The motion was seconded by Dick and all were in favor.

Andy will read the statement at the next Town Board meeting in August.

## **TOWN TRANSPORTATION**

In the absence of further information from Bob McKeon, this issue was again tabled.

## **DIAL A RIDE**

In October Andy will be attending the semi-annual meeting of the Dial A Ride Board.

## **FUTURE PROJECTS**

The following projects are anticipated for the Fall:

- Read Aloud Program
- PANDA programs
- A Pre-Thanksgiving Food Drive
- Emergency Preparedness Project

Betty suggested the end of October or the beginning of December for the Food Drive. Rose said that the Committee should check with Community Action to see when they really need it. Betty offered to ask the Seniors if they are willing to host it again. Rose asked if most of the food collected at the previous Drive had been donated by the Seniors. Betty responded that the Seniors had donated some of the food, but most came

from the community. Andy said that the PR had been very good and that had lead to a good outcome.

Andy felt it would be nice to get another group involved, perhaps a children's group. Betty said that this would be difficult if the Seniors are involved as they would have to hold it on a Tuesday afternoon. Andy said that the Scouts have special bags which they hang on doors and return to pick them up after they have been filled. He suggested that it would be possible to involve several organizations, but the message would have to be disseminated to other groups. Betty suggested that if several organizations were involved, they could bring whatever they collect to the Senior meeting on the day of the Drive. Andy asked if someone could e-mail him a list of the basic senior organizations in Red Hook along with contact people. Rose offered to do this.

Rose said that Rotary works with Helping Hands, a project which offers seniors help doing small odd jobs. However, the recipients must apply for this aid in Poughkeepsie and must meet income guidelines, viz. have incomes of less than \$20,000 a year. Due to this stringent guideline, few people in Rhinebeck have been able to take advantage of the program.

Andy brought up the possibility of a community preparedness project, asking how the Committee might work to benefit the community in this regard. He also asked how the Committee might serve as a resource to help prevent aides from taking advantage of the seniors for whom they work. Re the latter, Dick suggested that the Committee could put out a bulletin.

### **OTHER BUSINESS**

Judy suggested having someone from the senior housing project come to a meeting. Betty said that they have organized several activities at their facility. She suggested that leaving a flyer there might increase their awareness of the Committee as a resource.

Andy asked if there were any suggested modifications for the Brochure. Rose said that Rhinebeck updates their Newsletter once a month on the web. Sheila said that she has been leaving about six copies of the Brochure in the hallway of the Town Hall and people are taking them. She checks periodically to replenish them.

### **COMMENTS**

Andy thanked the members of the Committee for all their work during the course of the year.

### **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting will be held in September. Several dates were proposed and Andy will be sending an e-mail in order to determine the best date for the members.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Betty made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Kelly and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:55 A.M.

Minutes submitted by Sheila Franklin  
Secretary, Senior Services Committee