

MINUTES
SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

February 2, 2012

ROLL CALL

Present: Andy Kehr, Chairman, Betty A'Brial, Betty Bader, Carl Dowden, Nancy Finkle,
Nick LaCourte

Absent: Jeanne Duntz, Richard Franklin, Kelly Mosher, Rose Rider

Also Present: Brenda Cagle, TB Liaison

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Andy Kehr called the meeting to order at 9:18 A.M. He announced that Betty A'Brial and Nancy Finkle are now officially members of the Committee.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, JAN. 5, 2012 MEETING

Andy asked if there were any changes or other modifications to the Minutes. He noted that they had been reviewed and approved by Cynthia Ruiz. Hearing no calls for change, Carl made a motion to accept the Minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Nick and all were in favor

SENIOR NEWSLETTER

Andy called for review of the following segments of the Newsletter by the following members of the Committee:

Dick	Pg. 1 & 2
Nick	Pg. 3
Betty Bader	Pg. 4
Betty A'Brial	Pg. 5
Nancy & Carl	P. 6
Rose & Kelly	P. 7
Jeanne & Andy	P. 8

He noted that the pagination is for the single page format which is posted on the website, not for the pamphlet version. He asked that for the next meeting the members review the assigned material for accuracy, e.g. check e-mail addresses, telephone numbers, etc. After the accuracy of the material is checked, the Committee will discuss additions to the document.

FOOD DRIVE

The Food Drive will be held on Mar. 20th and 27th from 1:00 to 3:00 P.M. at the Firehouse. As previously, it will be a joint effort for the Committee and the Red Hook Seniors. Andy said that he has confirmed the arrangements for use of the Firehouse with Fr. Fred Cartier and Fire Chief Pete Coon. He said that he and his son will take care of the sign. PR for the event should be sent out at the end of February or the beginning of March. Secretary Sheila Franklin will send out the PR notices.

Betty Bader said that she has the previous flyer and would only have to change the dates so that it can be used in March. When she has done this, she will e-mail the flyer to everyone on the Committee so that they can make copies for distribution. Sheila will make 50 copies and will give them to Sue McCann. The members can pick up copies for distribution from Sue. It was mentioned that the deadline for the Sampler is February 20th. Sheila will submit a copy of the flyer to them as soon as she receives it. Per Andy's request, she will also add Brenda Cagle to the Committee membership list.

TRANSPORTATION ISSUES

Betty Bader said that the plan for the new service which was developed at the January meeting should be presented at Red Hook Commons. Nick said that there are already two services available to the residents. The regular bus goes to the new medical building in Rhinebeck and the adjacent Stop & Shop. The second service is the flex service. The new bus schedule is not out yet, but Ms. Ruiz promised that it will be sent to the Town Hall as soon as it becomes available.

Andy noted that new transportation routes have become available which service several towns in the northeast part of the County. The article in the newspaper which announced these new routes did not explain exactly how this service was arranged. However, Andy felt that if the plan worked for the northeast part of the county perhaps a similar plan might work for our northern area. At previous meetings, the Committee had considered whether Red Hook could undertake a joint venture with other local towns/hamlets.

Andy said that the new service is a door to door Dial A Ride service and funding is being provided by each of the four or five communities involved. Drivers are provided by Dutchess Mass Transit and the expenses are being shared by four or five communities. However Red Hook is too far away from these communities to consider becoming part of this plan. Nancy said that perhaps a similar arrangement could be made between the towns of Elizaville, Tivoli and Milan.

The new service is also being underwritten by grants. Brenda said that it was spearheaded by the Northeast Community Center. Town Supervisor Sue Crane has asked her to call the Stanfordville Town Supervisor and the Center in regard to this issue. Carl said that the towns did not get the grants; they were given to the Center, which is probably a non-profit organization. Andy will be talking to Sue Crane about this matter as Sue had sent an e-mail about possible cooperation with other towns in the area. Brenda said that she has a call into Tom Traudt, the Rhinebeck Town Supervisor. Andy felt that it would be practical to develop a joint system with Tivoli, Milan and Rhinebeck.

Andy asked if anyone on the Committee has any experience with grant writing; however no one had such experience. He asked that a sub-committee be created to deal with this issue. He felt that the only plan which will work is a door to door service. People cannot get to central pick up locations, especially from outlying areas. He said that the Committee has to look for money to underwrite a program and suggested that a sub-committee might search for grants. There are many grants, he said, which are never

utilized. They might be local, regional, for people with disabilities, for veterans, etc. Betty asked if Ben Traudt might be able to help.

Nick said that the flex service could meet the needs if it could be underwritten to lower the cost. Andy said that marketing is very important. When there was marketing, local Dial A Ride ridership went up. However, he said that the bottom line is that funds are needed in order to do anything.

Betty A'Brial offered to be a member of the sub-committee. It was suggested that Linda Keeling and Robert Mc Keon might be able to assist or participate in such a sub-committee. Andy will contact them.

Andy asked Brenda if she had a contact at the Northeast Community Center. She said she will get information for Andy. She also said that Harry Colgan and Sue Crane are interested in developing shared services with neighboring communities. Again she said that she will be talking to Tom Traudt. She felt that this was particularly important in light of the fact that the new medical building is in Rhinebeck. Rhinebeck is only running their bus two days week; however Stop and Shop is already a stop for the Route C bus.

Nick said that when the bus schedule becomes available, he will schedule a meeting at Red Hook Commons to see how many people are interested. Brenda said that there are six buses going north and six going south. There are eight stops between Red Hook and Tivoli.

Andy summarized the discussion, saying that the plan is to form a sub-committee. He will contact Linda Keeling and Bob McKeon to see if they are willing to offer their help. Once the sub-committee is formed, it will research finding grants and will look for ways to offset the cost of a new service. Betty Bader asked how the Rhinebeck bus was financed. Carl said that the town used funds which were not allocated.

Brenda said that the energy reduction efforts might be a way to tie in to a grant. She said that Laurie Husted spearheaded the 10% challenge. Brenda will contact Laurie. Andy asked if he could call Anne Marie Hirschberger and ask her if she could do some research for the Committee. Brenda responded that Anne Marie's contract is up on April 1st.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nick said that the fourth fire drill had been held at Red Hook Commons and participation was good. They will be holding drills every three months.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on March 1, 2012 at 9:15 A.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Nick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Betty Bader and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 A.M.

Minutes submitted by:
Sheila Franklin, Secretary
Sr. Services Committee