

Town of Red Hook
Senior Services Meeting
Jan 3, 2013

Present: Andrew Kehr, Nick LaCourte, Brenda Cagle, Jean Duntz, Dick Franklin, Nancy Finkle, Betty A'Brial, Rose Rider

Absent: Carl Dowden, Betty Bader

The meeting was called to order by President Andrew Kehr at 9:25 AM.

A motion was made by Dick Franklin, seconded by Nick Lacourte to accept the minutes as documented. Motion passed.

The program "Rhinebeck at Home" was discussed. It was decided that we should have a liaison to their meetings. Rose will call Nina to ask about time and place of meetings and whether we might have any joint opportunities in the future.

Brenda Cagle noted that she has a neighbor who is interested in this concept and may be interested in volunteering for such a program in Red Hook.

Jean Duntz reported that she has a lady in her exercise group who is unable to get around by herself, and the Office for Aging has provided a source to take her shopping.

Rhinebeck at Home is intending to provide all services.

Nancy shops for a lady who lives at Wells Manor and this lady uses a bus from the Hospital. Rhinebeck at Home has been to see this lady, but they are not ready yet to start services.

Rose said she would ask Nina if they currently have a slate of meetings to be held in the future and will let everyone know if this is the case.

Betty A'Brial said that once a month the people at the Fellowship at Good Shepherd Church have a bus for shopping.

All agreed that getting volunteers to do the driving for the program will be critical.

Dick Franklin said that he is getting a newsletter with information about services in the area—80% of all 911 calls received from Red Hook and Rhinebeck are re: people age 70 or over.

Nick LaCourte noted that he was concerned that there were still people at risk in case of an emergency—they may not have family that they can go to.

Dick F responded that it has been difficult to get such information because of privacy reasons—many seniors are afraid to give out information about vulnerability because they are afraid of being robbed. Any program must be “Neighbor helping neighbor”

Nick said that he would like to see a committee set up who would coordinate certain activities.

Andy asked about a Food Drive—it was decided to do it in June again with an emphasis on “Give a Child a Summer Meal” The last day of school is June 21, so we will plan on early to middle June.

Transportation—It was noted that the Loop bus is still not making a stop at Hannaford—but they do so at Stop and Shop. It was suggested that we have Cynthia Ruise from the Dutchess County Mass Transit come back with another presentation.

Brenda will contact Rep. Kevin Cahill about the possibility of transportation for seniors from East to West. She also mentioned the Bard Shuttle Bus and that they have picked up residents from Red Hook Commons for concerts in the past.

Dick noted that there are potential threats looming on the horizon and we might be able to do some small things such as using container and flower box gardens to grow vegetables. We might promote some small life style changes.

Andy distributed census information from the County which shows a marked increase in seniors in Red Hook—both town and village.

Nick reported that St Christopher’s Youth Group came to Red Hook Commons for caroling, cookies, etc. Discussion followed as to the possibility of having one of our meetings there. Brenda will mention having the Town Board hold a meeting there.

The meeting then adjourned on a motion from Nick, seconded by Jeanne at 10:20 AM;