

MINUTES
SENIOR SERVICES COMMITTEE

April 4, 2013

ROLL CALL

Present: Betty A'Brial, Betty Bader, Jeanne Duntz, Richard Franklin, Nick LaCourte, Don Peterson, Ed Sandfort

Absent: Andy Kehr, Chairman, Rose Rider, Nancy Finkle

Also Present: Brenda Cagle, Town Board Liaison. The meeting was held at Red Hook Commons and about ten members of that community were also in attendance.

CALL TO ORDER

Town Board Liaison Brenda Cagle welcomed all who came to attend the meeting. In the absence of Chairman Andy Kehr and at Brenda's request, secretary Sheila Franklin called the meeting to order at 10:05 A.M.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES, MAR. 7, 2013 MEETING

Sheila asked if there were any changes or other modifications to the Minutes. Hearing none, Jeanne made a motion to accept the Minutes as written. The motion was seconded by Dick and all were in favor.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

Brenda said that the meetings of the Senior Services Committee are always open to the public. She spoke briefly about the outreach efforts of the Committee and the Senior Newsletter which it publishes. Dick said that the Emergency Preparedness Committee is going to be updating the emergency preparedness booklet which he had originally written as a member of the Senior Services Committee. He said that the current version is available on the town website. He also mentioned that he attends the school's disaster preparedness committee. Eighty percent of the local EMS and Fire Department calls are for seniors with health issues.

FOOD DRIVE

Sheila distributed copies of the flyer from the previous Food Drive and asked if anyone would like to make any changes (other than the date). Don asked that the day of the week be included as well as the date. Nick made a motion to accept the format of the flyer with Don's change. The motion was seconded by Jeanne and all were in favor.

Brenda explained that the target of the Food Drive was children in the Red Hook School system who are enrolled in the food program during the school year but do not have this assistance over the summer. She had pictures taken at the previous Food Drive and passed them around the group.

Jeanne said that the Committee should keep track of the number of people who come in the evening to determine whether evening hours should be arranged for future food drives. Betty A'Brial offered to check into using the Bayright sign on the south side of

town. Dick had checked with the Firehouse and obtained their approval for its use on the June 11th date. Betty A'Brial said that she would try to get an announcement into the newsletter of the Council of Churches. Ed, Dick and Nick will try to do the same with, respectively, the newsletters of St. John's in Upper Red Hook, St. John's in Barrytown and St. Christopher's. Nick will post an announcement at Red Hook Commons. Brenda will get the information to those on the Red Hook Mom's List.

Jeanne asked about distribution of the flyers. Sheila said that in the past the flyers have been left at the Town Hall and members of the Committee have come and taken as many as they feel they can distribute.

TRANSPORTATION

Nick reported that he had had a meeting with Cynthia Ruiz relative to the pilot program. Thirteen residents of Red Hook Commons were present. Cynthia discussed the plan and gave out applications. She stressed that one must be registered to use any of the services of the Division of Mass Transportation. She said that the cost of the new program will be \$1.75 per trip. It will be a point to point service, i.e. there will be a specific route with designated stops. The specific points at which the bus will stop will be determined once all the applications are in. The service will be started with a small bus and they will go to a larger bus if there are enough passengers to warrant that. The minimum number of people required to start the weekly service is five. Nick said that eight people took applications at the meeting and six signed up.

Brenda asked if there would be curb to curb service. Nick said that that is still to be determined. Brenda said that the invitations for the service are expected to go out in June. Brenda then gave out applications to those attending the meeting. Betty A'Brial said that concern was expressed at the Council of Churches about how far from the center of Red Hook the bus will go. Brenda responded that Cynthia will base that on where the people who request the service are living.

Don said that someone should go to Provost Park in Tivoli and see if they are interested. Nick said that the emphasis now is on starting up the program. It can be expanded later. Jeanne said that a member of the Committee could go to Provost Park, explain the pilot program and say that if enough people there are interested, the program might be expanded to include them. Dick offered to contact Tivoli Mayor Brian Cranna and explain the program to him. Betty A'Brial and Betty Bader offered to go to Provost Park and St. Paul's Church in Tivoli.

Jeanne said that she has spoken to Hannaford about the program and they are prepared to set up coffee and cake on the days on which the bus is scheduled to run. Brenda felt that this would be a nice kick off for the program.

There was discussion about how confusing the use of the Dial A Ride Form is. However Cynthia has said that a new form will be developed once the program is under way and Nick said that he will be talking to Cynthia about the need for making the new form simpler. At this time, Nick said, only the Flex portion of the form should be filled out.

He pointed out that a contact person should be identified on the form when registering. Once the form is sent, the person registering will get a yellow card and a letter. The letter explains that there will be service to Hannaford. In response to questions, he explained that if one already has a yellow card s/he does not have to fill out another form.

OTHER BUSINESS

Brenda said that the AARP Tax Aide service will be offered at the Starr Library in Rhinebeck on Mondays from 3:30 P.M. until 7:00 P.M. until April 15th. She also made an announcement about the Senior Spring Social.

GUEST CONCERNS

Brenda asked the guests from Red Hook Commons if they wished to express any concerns. When complaints were expressed about the building, she said that these problems must be brought to the attention of the management of the Commons. Concern was expressed about the need to re-paint the white line in the road in front of the Commons. It was also pointed out that the cross walks need painting, especially those near the High School. A question was raised about the possibility of putting up signs at cross walks. A request was made for the return of the Bard bus which took residents of the Commons to free concerts at Bard and Vassar.

Brenda thanked the guests for attending and participating in the meeting.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on May 2, 2013 at 9:15 A.M. at the Town Hall.

ADJOURNMENT

Nick made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Don and all were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 A.M.

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