

SENIOR CITIZENS BOARD

Thursday, March 26, 2009

1:30 PM, Durham Town Hall, 3rd Floor Meeting Room

Regular Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Becky Anderson, Shirley Bielefield, Anne Cassady, Henry Coe, John Hogarth, Stuart Keating and Lainy Melvin. Staff: Trish Dynia and Sherry Hill.

Chairman: None

Human Services Director: No report.

Recreation Director: Sherry Hill reported that the Spring Fling will take place on Tuesday, May 26, from 12 Noon to 2PM, most likely at the firehouse. Bob Mel has agreed to entertain again. In addition, Chris Hurlbert will be on hand with card and magic tricks. Kim Terrill of Kim's Cottage Confections has graciously donated a cake again this year and Sherry is looking into other food purchases/donations. In addition, Sherry will be calling Frank Behrens to confirm use of the firehouse that day.

Sherry next reported that she has received permission from Camp Farnum for a summer swimming program. She would like to schedule a senior's cookout in June before camp starts. At that time participants could look over the property, determine if access is appropriate and gauge interest in the program. The committee will schedule a site walk of the property at the May meeting.

Finally, Sherry announced that all programs are going well.

Approval of Minutes: *A motion was made by Henry Coe, seconded by Shirley Bielefield, to approve the February 26, 2009 minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.*

Old Business: Becky Anderson asked if the Senior Committee meetings could be re-schedule to take place either early in the morning or later in the afternoon to accommodate members still in the workforce. After a brief discussion it was determined that the current time works for the majority. However, the committee expressed a desire to not loose Becky as a member, who then agreed to look into some personal re-scheduling. If that does not work out, the committee will re-visit this issue at a later meeting.

Anne Cassady inquired as to progress on the senior data base. Stu Keating stated that there had been no progress because there has not been a senior flyer

distribution since the project was established by the committee in January. Lainy will ask Jan Muraca if she has spoken to the town website's webmaster (Town Clerk Kim Garvis) about creating a link where seniors can sign up for this data base.

Becky Anderson inquired if the committee had received any feedback from Superintendent of Schools Sue Viccaro regarding senior use of school facilities. Now that two senior computer classes have been conducted at the high school, this would be a good time to review as to how the facility worked out for the participants and whether or not there were any problems from the school district's point of view. Lainy will contact Ms. Viccaro for feedback.

New Business: Henry Coe reported that Highview Health Care Center in Middletown would like to offer a monthly seniors breakfast in Durham. The event would be free and open to all seniors. Highview would provide everything. The health care company has been providing a similar outreach program in Middlefield for some time now at the Middlefield Community Center. The event has been very successful and well-attended there. Sherry Hill will look into appropriate, handicapped accessible locations for the event.

Anne Cassady inquired as to the possibility of offering a CPR course for seniors. Sherry Hill will look into possible trainers, class locations and insurance issues.

Becky Anderson announced that St. Luke's in Middletown is looking into re-establishing the Gate Keepers program in northern Middlesex County. She stated that funding for education of possible gate keepers (bank tellers, mail carriers, etc) has been the main obstacle in getting such programs off the ground.

Sherry Hill will be asking the senior classes to walk in the Memorial Day Parade. Lainy Melvin suggested that some could ride on the Durham Co-Operative Nursery School float if they preferred.

Adjournment: There being no further business, Chairman Lainy Melvin adjourned the meeting at 2:40 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Dynia
Recording Secretary

cc: Town Clerk, Recreation Director, Human Services Director, Committee Members.