

SENIOR CITIZENS BOARD

Thursday, February 26, 2009

1:30 PM, Durham Town Hall

3rd Floor Meeting Room

Regular Meeting Minutes

Members Present: Shirley Bielefield, Anne Cassady, Henry Coe, Stuart Keating and Lainy Melvin. Staff: Trish Dynia, Sherry Hill and Jan Muraca.

Chairman: Lainy Melvin reported that those who attended the Lake Grove site walk felt the school was not an appropriate location for senior activities due to the road's reduced site line, rental cost and parking. It has also been determined that due to Main Street geology the house formerly owned by Bob Hall would not support the septic system required by State health rules for a senior center serving up to one hundred people. The consensus of the Board was to drop both sites from consideration for future activities.

Lainy distributed copies of the proposed budget which totals \$17,500. The Board of Finance asked all boards and commissions to look for ways to reduce their budgets and Lainy obliged them with a \$1,000 reduction.

A motion was made by Henry Coe, seconded by Anne Cassady, to approve the proposed budget as distributed. The motion passed unanimously with Shirley Bielefield abstaining.

Lainy distributed the 2009 meeting dates. The Board will continue to meet on the fourth Thursday of each month, with the following exceptions: 1. No July or August meeting, 2. September, November and December meetings will be held on the third Thursday due to holidays/Durham Fair considerations.

A motion was made by Shirley Bielefield, seconded by Stuart Keating, to approve the 2009 meeting dates as published. The motion passed unanimously.

Human Services Director's Report: Jan Muraca reported that the Mental Health Association will be offering free adult workshops this spring, starting with one on stress management; Dates and times to be announced.

Jan also announced that May is Older Americans Month and First Selectwoman Laura Francis will issue a proclamation honoring same.

Recreation Director: Sherry Hill is in the process of planning the upcoming Spring Fling. She is looking into dates, times, location, entertainment, prizes and food. Last year's event was very well attended and received, and this year's event is expected to be another success.

Sherry received permission from the Board to pursue a senior's exercise and swim program at Camp Farnum this month. Issues to be looked into and reported on next month include life guard and insurance costs, pool temperature, schedule and parking.

Sherry will also look into the best way to handle announcements in the Town Times. (i.e: Insert in existing weekly calendar vs. special monthly seniors calendar)

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

A motion was made by Anne Cassady, seconded by Henry Coe, to approve the January minutes with the following change: Under Roll Call, change Ann Cassidy to Anne Cassady. The motion passed unanimously.

Other Business: Anne Cassady will do a write up for the Town Times on her Spring writing course.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Shirley Bielefield, second by Stuart Keating, to adjourn the meeting at 2:40 PM. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia Dynia
Recording Secretary

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