

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE ELDERLY  
MINUTES OF MAY 12, 2009 MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order at 11:06 A.M. by Jenifer Charette

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Elaine Bemont, Jenifer Charette, Barbara Flebotte, Susan King and Arlene Yarnes

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Pat Bachetti, Donna Doyker and Dorothy Hillman

**AUDIENCE:** Cindy Parker, a representative from Woodcrest. Cindy announced more moves will take place at Woodcrest in July, August and September. Sue King made some suggestions to Cindy that she felt would be helpful such as one way signs or stop signs at the new building, directional numbers in the hallways and the numbering of parking spots. Cindy made note of these suggestions. Cindy was also invited to write an article for the newsletter with news from Woodcrest so the public has an idea on what is happening there.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Minutes of meeting of April 14, 2009 approved by motion of Sue King with a second by Arlene Yarnes. All members present were in favor.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Memo received from Home & Community regarding topics that could be shared with the seniors and community in the future. Among these are "Beat the Heat" and information on nutrition. These sessions could be held after the coffee hour on Tuesday or after the luncheon on Wednesdays. More discussion will take place on this in the future. These sessions would be advertised in the newsletter.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Chairperson's Report – Jenifer reported that she would like to add a 'Senior Interview Column' to the newsletter sharing interesting things that have happened to our seniors. \*She will also be adding quotes as space allows. \*Another suggestion Jenifer had was a 'Seniors – May I Help You?' column. \*Zumba Gold class has been popular and sign-ups are taking place. \*A walking group will start at Woodcrest beginning next Tuesday at 8:30 A.M. \*The senior center door still does not work.. Problem is more than just a dead 9 volt battery. Problem seems to be with the electronic sensor and a replacement for this is being looked into. \*The Boy Scouts will soon be starting a garden on the premises. \*The town employees will be power washing the building and painting wherever necessary. \*The Girl Scouts will be doing some landscaping to beautify the area. \*It is hoped that parking lines will be painted soon also. \*The Travel expo was very successful and it is hoped to have another one in the fall. \*Jenifer is also going to check with the head of the Cultural Commission to see if the seniors could set up a table and sell soda, coffee, chips, etc. during the upcoming concerts. This would help raise a little money for the treasury.

Meals on Wheels – Sue King reported that the MOW program has three new clients and a new driver volunteer. An issue has arisen that Sue will be handling with the provider of the food for this program.

Senior Lunches – Arlene Yarnes reported that the next lunch will be held on Tuesday, May 19 at the Somers High School. There is a seating maximum here. There will be no more outside meals until September.

Senior Citizens Club – Arlene Yarnes reported that the Boy Scouts have extended an invitation to the seniors to attend a “pre”-Grand Opening of the new Somers Scout Lodge. This would take place on Saturday, May 30 from 9:00 to 10:00. The scouts are thankful for the tables donated to them by the seniors as well as the refrigerator. \*We will be honoring the local firemen at a luncheon in the near future. \*The annual cookout will be held on Saturday, July 18<sup>th</sup>. \*Dedication of the new TV by members of the Rotary will take place on Wednesday, May 13.

Senior Sign – Donna Doyker was not present but is working with Jenifer on messages that should be put up on the senior sign.

School Liaison – Donna Doyker was not present.

Senior Support – Pat Bachetti was not present but her comments were related to the Board by Elaine Bemont. Pat is currently working with 5 people and they are planning on having an auction in early June. Mother’s Day cards were sent to the ladies and a “thinking of you” card was sent to the gentleman. Three of these people will be attending the concerts on the green soon. They are also planning to have a pizza party in June. Pat finds this program very satisfying – both for the clients as well as herself. Pat was also pleased with the new TV at the senior center and was glad that the handicapped doors were working. She was not aware that the problem had reappeared and that more extensive repairs are needed.

Pat Bachetti and Barbara Flebotte recently attended a meeting regarding dignified transportation for seniors in Connecticut. This program is an alternative to the senior bus and people can travel longer distances as needed. There is a web site we can go to in order to find out additional information. This is [www.ITNNorthCentralCt.org](http://www.ITNNorthCentralCt.org).

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Lights for Senior Center Building – Jenifer has spoken with a representative of CL&P regarding any available grants to provide new lighting to the center.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Newsletter Ads – Barbara Flebotte reported that 6 tentative ads are in the works. Problem has been that many different ad sources have come out at the same time as we are trying to have businesses purchase our ads. Other advertisers provide a much wider viewing area for their ads to be seen. It was also mentioned that the newsletter should be available on the [Somersct.gov](http://Somersct.gov) and should be easy for the public to get to. It was

suggested that the secretary send a letter to Marcia Mitchell and request that she update the home page of the town website to indicate that the SomersSenior Newsletter is on line and provide instructions as to how to get to the newsletter.

Flu Clinic – The secretary was advised to send a letter to the VNA head sponsoring the fall flu clinic requesting that a clinic be held at the senior center per the feelings of the Advisory Committee to the Elderly. Arlene will give Elaine the contact name so this letter can be prepared.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Adjournment at 12:45 by motion of Sue King and second by Barbara Flebotte.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine L. Bemont, Secretary

**MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING**