

**TOWN OF SOMERS
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE ELDERLY
MINUTES OF MAY 11, 2010 MEETING**

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order by Jenifer Charette at 11:30 A.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Pat Bachetti, Elaine Bemont, Jenifer Charette, Jordan Chatis, Susan King and Arlene Yarnes.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Donna Doyker, Dorothy Hillman and Marilyn Smith

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Approval of minutes of April 13, 2010 with a motion by Susan King and a second by Pat Bachetti.

AUDIENCE: Lisa Pellegrini, First Selectwoman

CORRESPONDENCE: None

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chairperson's Report - *A grant is being pursued to repair/repave the parking lot so that it can be marked for parking spots. *Trip to New York City has been cancelled. *Trip to Toronto is selling well and is still scheduled. *Mohegan Sun bus trip was very successful and more of these trips will be planned for the future. *New senior bus is being repaired. Old senior bus needs repair of the lift so wheelchair people can use the bus. *Volunteer drivers may be recruited to help with driving elderly people to doctor offices in Springfield and Hartford. It is hoped to have a town car available for these drivers to use.

Meals on Wheels – Susan King said all is going well at this time. Concern has arisen over the health/mental health of some residents of Woodcrest. We will be looking into this situation more fully in the near future.

Senior Lunches/Senior Club – *Al and Mary Ann Kingsbury will be going away from May 15 – May 29 and need a volunteer to help out with the Tuesday morning coffee, etc. Please let Arlene know if you are interested in helping. *On May 19, Bill McCloskey will speak to the seniors about the changes coming with the healthcare reform bill. *Sen. Kissell would like to come talk to the seniors on June 2. *High school lunch for the seniors has been changed to Monday, May 24th at 12:00. Sign-up is required. This is the final outside lunch until fall. *An auction is being planned for June 5. Club members can set up a table for free – others will be charged a \$10 fee per table. *Mr. Wilcox will be named an honorary member of the Senior Club. He has spent many hours of his time trying to clean the building and do some of the painting.

Senior Sign – Donna was not present but sign now advertises the upcoming tag sale.

Senior Support – Pat Bachetti is currently working with three people at Blair Manor. An auction is being planned for them in the near future.

OLD BUSINESS:

Facility Maintenance – It is hoped to have paint available for the interior of the building in the very near future. A list of problems noted with the building has been given to the town for their help. It is hoped that several prisoners will soon be available to help with the painting, etc.

Electricity Deregulation – Jordan Chatis spoke to Lisa Pellegrini and the Board regarding the town's need to look into electrical deregulation for future years. The town is currently in a contract lasting two more years before anything new can be done. This project could be beneficial to the townspeople as well as for town buildings and coordination with Enfield for the Enfield/Somers prisons.

NEW BUSINESS:

Woodcrest – A motion was made by Pat Bachetti with a second by Arlene Yarnes regarding a letter to be drafted by this board and sent to the Housing Authority of Woodcrest. Several problems have arisen that we all feel need immediate attention. It is hoped that a Resident Coordinator can be hired to help with these problems. Another meeting will be scheduled shortly to put the proper words together for this letter.

Small Cities Grant – Lisa Pellegrini spoke to us about how she has applied for a grant to have new sidewalks installed on Battle Street from Woodcrest to the center of town. There is also hope of having sidewalks leading to the cemetery. This grant would also cover the repair/marketing of the senior center parking lot. Let's all hope she is successful in this endeavor.

ADJOURNMENT: Meeting adjourned at 12:30 P.M. by motion of Pat Bachetti with a second by Susan King.

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine L. Bemont, Secretary

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING