

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE ELDERLY  
MINUTES OF MAY 8, 2012 MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order by Chairman Amy Saada at 1:35 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Pat Bachetti, Elaine Bemont, Fran Boudreau, James Burgess, Dorothy Bynack, Ron Collyer, Phyliss Gwilliam, Ailene Henry and Amy Saada

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**AUDIENCE:** Linda Coleman and Florence Hurley

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Approval of minutes of April 10, 2012 with a motion by Dory Bynack and a second by Ailene Henry.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

Chairman's Report - \*Amy reported that volunteers are a necessary part for carrying out various programs. More volunteers are needed.

Meals on Wheels - Linda Coleman reported that there are currently only nine clients using the program and there are enough drivers for the time being. Questions had arose as to the possibility of funding drivers due to the high cost of gas. Ailene Henry asked this question of Lisa Pellegrini and was told it was just too complicated an issue. Funding was still a question. It was stated that those unable to pay are treated on a case to case basis. Linda was going to check with other town's meals on wheels program to see if some kind of guidelines could be put into place to make these easier for all. Also in question was just what does happen with the monies donated to this program such as the money received yearly from the Jahn trust. Ailene/Linda were going to see if they could find some answers for us.

Senior Support – Pat Bachetti stated she currently is working with two patients at Blair Manor. Pat is kind of restricted in getting information on Somers residents residing at Blair due to the Hippo laws and the privacy they create. Word of mouth is the best way to let Pat know who may be a resident of the nursing home.

Senior Club – Jim Burgess reported that the Senior Club will be holding a Sock Hop on Friday, May 11 at 5:00. The Club will also be publishing its own newsletter in the near future. It is currently being worked out. Jim stated, as a matter of information, that the Senior Club was organized about twenty years ago as a non-profit organization and a name needed to be established at that time in order to do this - thus the club was formed. Jim questioned the problems that have arisen between the club, politicians and the Senior

Center staff. It appears that the problems are mainly communication or lack of as well as some financial issues. It is hoped that all of these can be resolved in the near future.

### **VOLUNTEERS:**

Trip Planner – David Gwilliam has volunteered to plan some day trips for the seniors. When a trip is definite, it will be advertised in the monthly newsletter. A definite trip has been planned for June 22 from 8:30 til 5 to Mohegan Sun. If there are not enough people signed up for this trip, it is possible to merge with members of the Stafford Senior Center as well as people at Sun Valley Campground.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Expansion of the Center – We had all understood that a grant had been received for an addition to the senior center. Apparently the actual funds received were not enough for this to happen. The parking lot will be repaved and remarked with the appropriated funds.

Woodcrest Generator – Fran Boudreau reported that Building #63 had a generator installed yesterday which can be used for emergency purposes . It has been stated that a generator is in the process for Building #71.

Pool Table – Ron Collyer and Amy Saada stated that this is not a dead issue at this time. Ways are being thought of to make a pool table and ping pong table happen.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Senior Center Activities – Amy advised us that the Center building will be closed from May 14<sup>th</sup> thru May 28<sup>th</sup> for the repaving and marking of the parking lot. Most all senior center activities will still happen by using Kibbe Fuller School and the Town Hall Auditorium.

### **COMMENTS:**

A discussion arose as to whether the Club needs to hold an audit of its books. It was determined that this is a Club issue and not an issue to be covered by this Board.

**Next Advisory Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 12, 2012 at 1:30 P.M.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 2:50 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine L. Bemont, Secretary

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING