

**TOWN OF SOMERS  
THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE TO THE ELDERLY  
MINUTES OF JANUARY 14, 2014 MEETING**

**CALL TO ORDER:** Meeting called to order by Chairman Amy Saada at 1:30 P.M.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Elaine Bemont, Dorothy Bynack, Ron Collyer, Eileen Fedorowich, Ailene Henry and Amy Saada.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Pat Bachetti and Phyllis Gwilliam

**AUDIENCE:** Cheryl Anderson, Beverly Guimond, Dan Fraro, Linda Coleman and Florence Hurley.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Approval of minutes of meeting of December 10, 2013 approved with a motion by Ron Collyer and a second by Dory Bynack

**MOTION:** A motion was made by Dory Bynack, seconded by Eileen Fedorowich, regarding the flooding of the parking lot. People get their shoes filled with water and it is slippery when frozen. It was felt this is definitely a safety issue and should be looked into by town personnel. Vote on this issue was unanimous.

Chairman's Report – Amy reported on the following:

New bus received approval by town vote. Three bids have been received and two more are needed. Bus should be available approximately four weeks later.

Next year's budget is being worked on.

Capital improvements needed or suggested are as follows:

- Second bus could be well used. Cost would be about \$50,000 and would be at our own expense. Leasing could also be checked into.
- Bathroom updates are needed with hands-free sinks, etc.
- Property behind senior center could be used for games, a pavilion, picnics, etc. Property could also be used by others from town.
- Quiet meeting area is needed.
- Computer lab workshop would be good for seniors. They could provide their own laptops, etc.
- Dividers should be installed to help alleviate some of the noise.
- Pool table could be covered to make better use of the sun room and possible meeting room.
- Kitchen updates are needed. Drawers fall out when opened due to a lack of stops and a commercial dishwasher would be a great benefit.

Meals on Wheels - Linda Coleman reported that she recently lost two drivers but also gained two new ones. Ten clients are currently being served.

Senior Support – Pat Bachetti reported that she is currently corresponding with 18 people at Blair Manor and will continue to do so while she vacations in Florida.

Senior Club – Dory Bynack reported that dues for 2014 are now due. Their board will be meeting next week. Question arose by Dan Fraro as to the possibility of people being served their meal rather than standing in line at the Wednesday lunches. This will be discussed at their board meeting.

Woodcrest – Eileen Fedorowich reported that a smoking cessation policy will go into effect in April. Art work is needed for the main hallways at 75 Battle Street. Perhaps the Friday art group could help out with this. It was suggested that the cultural commission might also be able to help with this matter. Interest in a computer workshop is very much alive. Suggestions of ways to encourage more people from Woodcrest to attend events at the senior center are needed. Let Eileen know of any ideas you may have. Piedmont Percolator programs run one Sunday a month. Would bus be available for this?

Trips – Upcoming trips are as follows:

|         |   |
|---------|---|
| 1/16/14 | Mohegan Sun   |
| 1/24/14 | Springfield Museum and Lunch                            |
|         | Connecticut Flower Show                                 |
| 2/18/14 | Jimmy Mazz at Storowtown. Checking on bus availability. |
| 2/18/14 | Three-day trip to Taj Mahal in Atlantic City            |
| 4/29/14 | Three-day Pennsylvania Dutch Trip                       |

#### **OLD BUSINESS:**

Bus – New bus is in process. More bids are needed before decision is made.

Energy Assistance/Operation Fuel – Programs still available to those within certain guidelines. See Linda Coleman on these issues.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Resource Guide – Aileen Henry volunteered to review resource guide for proper phone numbers, etc.

Coffee Talk – Subject of next Coffee Talk session will be Memory Screening. Program is open to all.

After Holiday Party - Date is January 31. Food, fun and games for everyone.

Valentine's Party – Party will be complete with food, photo booth, trivia games, etc.

#### Comments:

Suggestions for upcoming programs include having someone from the Library speak to us on services available to seniors as well as a program on genealogy .

**Next meeting of the Advisory Board will be on Tuesday, February 11, 2014 at 1:30.**

**ADJOURNMENT:** Meeting adjourned at 2:45 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elaine L. Bemont, Secretary

MINUTES NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED AT SUBSEQUENT MEETING