

Senior Citizens Advisory Committee
Wednesday, June 16, 2010
Town Hall, Old Town Road
10:30 a.m.

Present: Chair Gail Pierce, Dorothy Graham, Janet Merritt, Linda Spak, William Wilson, Sandra Kelly, Mimi Leveille and Betsy Theve. Committee member Marguerite Donnelly was absent. Deputy Town Clerk Millie McGinnes was present for the recording of minutes.

Gail Pierce called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Approve Minutes of May 19, 2010 Meeting

Ms. Theve moved to approve the minutes of May 19, 2010, seconded by Ms. Pierce.

Ayes: 7 (Wilson, Kelly, Theve, Graham, Pierce, Leveille, Merritt) Nays: 0

Absent: 2 (Donnelly, Spak)

Ms. Spak joined the meeting at 10:34 a.m.

FISH

Ms. Pierce stated that she will contact Betty Fitzpatrick and Ann Fagan for an update on FISH.

Senior Moments

It was noted that there were no "Senior Moment" articles in the Block Island Times at this time.

Update on Activities:

The following activity ideas were suggested:

- Island tour bus trip by Howie Rice
- Apple orchard/fall foliage trip on the mainland
- Trips to senior living facilities on the mainland such as Stoneridge, the Elms and South County Commons

Ms. Graham volunteered to act as trip coordinator.

Library Activities

No update was provided.

Chair Aerobics

Ms. Leveille offered to follow up with Cindy Kelly regarding the initiation of a chair aerobics class. Ms. Theve will gather a list of names of possible participants.

Swimming Pool

Ms. Spak reported that she will send a note to Ms. McAloon of the Neptune House and follow up with a phone call in an attempt to initiate a meeting.

AARP for Seniors

Ms. Spak reported that a four hour driving safety course has been set up for September 29, 2010 on Block Island with AARP. She noted the cost would be \$12 per participant for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. The Committee will pick up the costs of the two ferry

tickets for the trainers and the lunch for the participants. Ms. Spak suggested advertising the course in mid July.

Update on Janet and Sandra's Meeting - Community Bulletin Board

Ms. Merritt explained that she and Ms. Kelly are working on formalizing the "Block Island Bulletin Board" through Googlegroups, an online group email management program. The program will allow individuals to request to be included in the group. Once included, the member can post information/requests to all other members regarding: community events, needed assistance, available and wanted goods and services. The program will be self-managing and self-monitored. Ms. Merritt and Ms. Kelly will work on membership criteria and posting/correspondence guidelines.

Public Input

There was no public input.

New Business

Mr. Wilson circulated an article from Yale Nursing Matters magazine given to him by Judy Tierney regarding seniors feeling more at home in nursing home situations.

Discussion ensued regarding providing seniors with safety devices such as 1st Alert emergency lights, smoke and carbon dioxide detectors and fire extinguishers. Ms. Spak suggested purchasing a dozen of these items to resell to seniors on the island.

The Senior Moments brochure should be updated in the fall to include new programs and the availability of certain items such as walkers.

Mr. Wilson left the meeting at 11:27 a.m. and Ms. Spak left at 11:29 p.m.

Next Meeting Date

The next meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2010.

At 11:36 p.m., Ms. Kelly moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Ms. Theve and carried unanimously.

Millie McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Approved: July 21, 2010