

Senior Advisory Committee
Tuesday, January 17, 2012
Town Hall, Old Town Road
10:15a.m.

Present: Chair Gail Pierce, Dorothy Graham, Sandra Kelly, Betsey DeMaggio, Marguerite Donnelly, Sandra Hopf. Janet Merritt, Betsy Theve and Linda Spak were absent. Janet Ziegler was in the audience.

Gail Pierce called the meeting to order at 10:20 a.m. after requesting that Dorothy Graham take minutes due to Clerk Millie McGinnes absence.

Approve Minutes of December 13, 2011 Meeting

Ms. Kelly moved to approve the minutes of December 13, 2011. Ms. Donnelly seconded the motion and it carried.

6 Ayes (Pierce, Graham, Kelly, Donnelly, DeMaggio, Hopf) 0 Nays
3 Absent (Merritt, Spak, Theve)

Welcome Sandra Hopf to committee

Ms. Pierce welcomed Sandra Hopf who was appointed as a committee member to replace Mimi Leveille. It was noted that Ms. Hopf will be a great asset to the committee and that the committee looks forward to her input and working with her.

Conversation with Sue Black

Ms. Pierce postponed this conversation as Sue Black was unable to attend today's meeting.

Update on ongoing activities

Block Island Bulletin Board...

Ms. Kelly informed the committee that presently we have 143 members.

Sandra met with Bruce Montgomery who will put a quarter page ad in the new phone book giving Block Island Bulletin Board information and instructing people as to how to join.

Ms. Pierce mentioned that the Senior Advisory Committee was not listed along with all the Town Committees in the directory.

Ms. Kelly suggested that it was too early to advertise in the BI Times and that maybe we should consider placing an ad in April or May when more residents return to the island.

A discussion followed and it was agreed that more cards need to be printed for the bulletin board, with the back of the card stating how the bulletin board serves the members of the community and that it is non-political and non-commercial in its mission.

Ms. Hopf added that cards should be given the real estate brokers to give to their owner renters.

It was agreed that Sandra Kelly would ask the Block Island Power Company if they would insert a card in the Senior Moments Pamphlet mailing without additional cost.

Ms. Donnelly suggested that a "tea and cookies" event be held at the Community Center in the spring to inform and instruct people regarding the Block Island Bulletin Board.

Swimming pool

Since Linda Spak was not in attendance, it was agreed to postpone any discussion of the pool at this time.

FISH

There was no report at this time

Soup Group and Lunch Bunch

Ms. Pierce informed the Committee that the numbers were dwindling at Soup Group due to sickness and recent deaths. She suggested we advertise in “On the Block” and put it on the “Weekly Calendar” in the BI Times. Ms. Pierce additionally noted that as an added enticement Soup Group offers “Soup to Go” in which Soup Group always donates all the extra soup, bread and dessert to those who attend

Ms. Donnelly suggested we ask Ellen Gilpin, who is the current president of Lunch Bunch, to open a Facebook page for the Lunch Bunch which would publicize the ongoing needs of the group. It could also list available dates for the various community groups to sign up to provide lunch for the seniors. A vote was taken in favor of her request. It was determined that the Facebook page would deal with Lunch Bunch only.

Senior Moments Pamphlet

Ms. Kelly passed out a final “mock up” of the Senior Moments pamphlet. She asked the committee to peruse it for additional changes or corrections. Sandra apprised the committee of the following bids for printing costs:

Eastside Printers	1500 copies, colored inks	\$405.00
	1500 copies, colored paper, blank ink	\$265.00
Print Express	1500 copies, colored inks	\$645.00
	1500 copies, colored paper, black ink	\$169.00
Print Source	1006 copies, full color	\$612.39

After much discussion, it was agreed that we would proofread the mock up and hold off making any print decisions, as this is a spring mailing. It was decided to also check the cost of printing the pamphlet at Town Hall.

Follow up on Town wide Communication

After a brief summary and discussion of the committee’s meeting with Nancy Dodge and Bill McCombe, it was agreed that a letter be sent to Nancy and Bill offering the use of the Block Island Bulletin Board as a conduit for disseminating info in the event of an emergency and/or serious weather event. Ms. Merritt will write this letter.

Elect Senior Advisory Committee officers

After some discussion, Ms. Kelly moved that since there were some members who were absent, the officers should stand as is: Chair – Gail Pierce; Vice Chair – Dorothy Graham; Secretary – Sandra Kelly. Ms. Donnelly seconded the motion, adding that Ms. Pierce was doing a “great” job. All voted in favor.

6 Ayes (Pierce, Graham, Kelly, Donnelly, DeMaggio, Hopf) 0 Nays
3 Absent (Merritt, Spak, Theve)

Seniors for Seniors

Ms. Graham stated that she had met with Glen Pence, the chef at the Block Island School, and that they both agreed that it would be wonderful for the high school seniors to make soup for the Soup Group. Any time after the January exam period would be fine. Ms. Donnelly stated that

Megan Mitchell, the senior student liaison, had met with Pat Doyle, Amy Dugan and herself regarding a senior project that would also involve the school honor society. The students would make it a home economic project, would buy, secure, cook and serve a meal to Lunch Bunch and would receive school credit for doing so. Ms. Donnelly added that this has been an ongoing discussion for several years and that she was looking forward to it happening.

Work on 2012 budget

After sending Ms. Graham to the Town Hall office to inquire as to the exact date the budget was due, she returned to say that she was informed that it was “overdue” and therefore “ASAP was best”!

Ms. Pierce passed out a draft copy of the budget request letter to each member and read it aloud. Discussion followed and corrections were agreed upon. Ms. Kelly will contact Ms. Merritt who will make all the necessary corrections to the draft and then submit the final budget request letter. A copy of the final letter will also be sent to each member of the committee.

Next meeting – Tuesday, February 21, 2012 at 10:15 a.m.

It was specially noted that we schedule our meetings at 10:15a.m., so as not to run into Lunch Bunch prep time.

Ms. Donnelly made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 11:50 a.m. Ms. DeMaggio seconded with all in favor.

Respectfully submitted,
Dorothy Graham
Vice Chair

Approved: February 21, 2012