

Senior Advisory Committee
September 18, 2012
Town Hall, Old Town Road
10:15 a.m.

Present: Chair Gail Pierce, Sandra Kelly, Dorothy Graham, Betsy Theve, Linda Spak, Betsey DeMaggio, and after the first vote, Ann Henault. Also present were Senior Coordinator Kathleen Mitchell and for the recording of minutes, Millie McGinnes.

Not Present: Sandra Hopf

Meeting was called to order by the Chair, Gail Pierce at 10:17 p.m.

Approve Minutes of meeting, August 28, 2012.

Betsy Theve moved to approve the minutes of August 28, 2012 as amended. The motion was seconded by Dorothy Graham and carried.

Ayes 6 (Pierce, Kelly, Graham, Theve, Spak, DeMaggio) Nays 0
Absent 2 (Henault, Hopf)

Senior Coordinator Kathleen Mitchell's input/report

Ms. Henault joined the meeting at 10:32 a.m.

Kathleen Mitchell distributed a report. It was reviewed and discussed with the following highlights:

- A tag name for seniors was discussed. "Islanders" was dismissed as too exclusionary. "Island Adventurers" was suggested, no decisions were made.
- Programs will run from October through April, cost ranging from free, to nominal fee/donation or cost of program. Scholarships will be available. Ms. Mitchell will explore outside funding options.
- Programs will be advertised in the Block Island Times, perhaps their website and through posted flyers.
- Attendance limits will be reached on a first call, first serve reservation by phone.
- The kick-off program will be September 30th, with "Tuscan Tonight" - making homemade dough and pizza.

Update on ongoing activities

Soup group – new ideas There will be no changes to the program at this time.

Neptune Pool – Insurance/stairs – There was no report on this item.

Fish - Ms. Pierce whom is coordinating the program, reviewed the details.

Block Island Bulletin Board – Ms. Kelly reported that there were now 191 members. New flyers advertising the Bulletin Board will be posted around town.

Senior Tax Exemptions – Share letter to Town Council

Sandra Kelly reported that the letter requesting an increase to the income level for senior tax exemption eligibility was sent to the Town Council. The Council will address it at their September 19, 2012 meeting.

Island wide notification system... TRZ

Ms. Henault reported on the TRZ system called "Notify Now" which has two rate structures:

- \$1.50 to \$2.00 per person to be notified each year; or
- \$0.10 per minute, per person to be notified, plus a \$100 setup fee.

Discussion ensued regarding the purpose of notification and who should be in charge of such. It was decided that the committee should pass the information they found on to the Town for their possible implementation. Ms. Henault and Ms. Kelly will follow up with the Town.

Visiting Angels – general information

Ms. Pierce reported that there is an organization called Visiting Angels which, for a fee, is sending employees to the island to help with in-home care. It was noted that it would be a good idea to compile a list of resources of such services to have available to the community. Ms. Pierce will follow up and discuss it with State Nurse Mary Donnelly.

At 11:20 am. a motion was made by Betsy Theve and seconded by Betsey DeMaggio to adjourn and voted unanimously.

Millie McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes approved: October 16, 2012