

**Senior Advisory Committee
March 19, 2013
Town Hall, Old Town Road
9:30 a.m.**

Present: Chair Gail Pierce, Dorothy Graham, Ann Henault, Betsey DeMaggio and Deborah Martin. Also present for the recording of minutes, was Millie McGinnes. Members Sandra Kelly, Sandra Hopf, Linda Spak and Senior Coordinator Kathleen Mitchell were absent.

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gail Pierce at 9:32 a.m.

Approve Minutes of Meeting, February 19, 2013

Ms. Graham moved to approve the minutes of February 19, 2013 as amended. The motion was seconded by Ms. Henault and carried.

Ayes 5 (Pierce, DeMaggio, Graham, Martin, Henault) Nays 0
Absent 3 (Kelly, Hopf, Spak)

Senior Coordinator Kathleen Mitchell's Report

- a) **Activities**
- b) **Recruit Sponsors for Various Activities**
- c) **Status of Town Wide Community Calendar**
- d) **Creative ways for Publicity**
- e) **Scholarship Program – Discuss and act on Financing**

It was noted that although Senior Coordinator Kathleen Mitchell could not be present, she supplied a written report (attached). Ms. Pierce read the report aloud. The following items were highlighted:

- There will be a driver's safety course held on May 1st.
- Next winter the walking program will be held in the gym to avoid inclement weather, etc.
- Attendance fees for arts and crafts programs will be capped at \$10.00 per person.
- Will focus on putting together medical, nutritional and wellness programs.
- The development of a directory of services to be drafted by Ms. Mitchell and Ms. Kelly may be postponed until next fall.

Act on Authorization to Send BIED Fees for use of Facility

Ms. DeMaggio moved to ratify the decision made at the February 19th meeting to authorize the payment of \$200.00 to BIED for the use of the Community Center. Ms. Martin seconded the motion and it carried.

Ayes 5 (Pierce, DeMaggio, Graham, Martin, Henault) Nays 0
Absent 3 (Kelly, Hopf, Spak)

Update on:

a) Food Delivery Program

Ms. DeMaggio reported that she had one participant for the food delivery program. She suggested suspending the Block Island Grocery meal delivery program at the end of March and trying something different. She recommended making and delivering extra Lunch Bunch and Soup Group meals. She explained that there were a number of folks who can't/won't attend the meals, but would benefit from the delivery. It was suggested that the anonymous donation in support of the food delivery program be redirected toward such a program. Ms. DeMaggio will talk to operators of Lunch Bunch and Soup Group about such a program and to Coordinator

Mitchell to touch base with the anonymous donor to see if the program would fit the gift. If all are in agreement, the program will be tried on a trial basis through May.

b) Affordable Care Act for Seniors

This item was not discussed.

c) Heating Assistance Program

Earlier under the Senior Coordinator's report it was noted that a few people have worked with Ms. Mitchell to take advantage of the heating assistance program.

d) Block Island Bulletin Board

Ms. Pierce stated that the Bulletin Board program was working well.

Budget Hearings

a) Dates

- Town Council Interim meeting – Council receives budget: Wed., March 20, 2013
- Budget work session: Monday, March 25, 2013
- Budget work session: Wednesday, April 3, 2013
- Budget work session: Monday, April 8, 2013 (as needed)
- Budget work session: Monday, April 15, 2013 (as needed)

It was noted that the date of the March 25th meeting may be changed as it conflicts with Passover. Additionally, it was noted that the Financial Town Meeting will be held Monday, May 6, 2013.

b) Discuss Various Ways to “Get Out the Vote”

- Notes to hand out
- BIBB
- Phone campaign

Ms. Pierce stated that she would send out on the Block Island Bulletin Board a notice of budget meeting dates and a request for support at the meetings of the Senior Advisory budget.

Explore Possibility of Exercise Space for seniors

Medical Center Board Member Judith Cyronak joined the meeting. She explained that she was having preliminary discussions regarding exercise space and wanted to know if there was a need for such in the senior population. Discussion ensued. The item may be revisited at the next meeting.

Next Meeting – April 16, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.

At 10:28 a.m. a motion was made by Ms. Graham and seconded by Ms. Henault to adjourn and unanimously approved.

Millie McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes approved: April 16, 2013