

Senior Advisory Committee
May 21, 2013
Town Hall, Old Town Road
9:30 a.m.

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

The meeting was called to order by Chair Gail Pierce at 9:31 a.m.

1. Approve Minutes of Meeting, April 29, 2013

Ms. Spak moved to approve the minutes of April 29, 2013. The motion was seconded by Ms. Wright and carried.

Ayes 7 (Pierce, DeMaggio, Martin, Henault, Hopf, Spak, Wright) Nays 0
Absent 2 (Graham, Kelly)

2. Discuss and Act on New Direction for Coordinator Role

Senior Coordinator Kathleen Mitchell read a letter of resignation effective in two weeks. The letter was accepted with regret and a warm thank you to Ms. Mitchell for her exceptional service to the committee.

Ms. Pierce stated that she wanted to organize board members to work with the coordinator, assigning each member a specific program. Ms. Spak volunteered to work on arts and crafts. Ms. Hopf volunteered to work on cooking programs.

3. Discuss and Act on Protocol for Donation Solicitations

Discussion ensued regarding how to go forward with a donation earmarked to a program that is no longer functioning. The donor will be approached to see if the donation can be allocated to a similar use.

4. Senior Coordinator Kathleen Mitchell's Report

a) Activities

Ms. Mitchell distributed and reviewed a report (attached) highlighting the programs/activities that are up and running and those on the drawing board.

b) Review Publicity Options

The following ideas were brainstormed to increase publicity: Increasing membership on the Block Island Bulletin Board, ad in the Block Island Times for the Bulletin Board, produce a calendar, advertise/announce in churches, insert flyer in BIPCO bills and tax bills, publicize at the Farmer's Market and show photos of events.

5. Discuss the Budget Hearings – Town's-people Misconception of Our Role

Ms. Pierce stated that she wanted the community to understand that the SAC provides vital services to the community. It was suggested that a note regarding special events and activities be

sent regularly to the First Warden to be shared during the Warden's Report on the Town Council's agenda.

6. Discuss and Act on Possible Name Change of Senior Activities Group to Active Older Adults (AOA)

Ms. Pierce suggested using the name Active Older Adults (AOA) in their publicity. No action was taken on this item.

7. Discuss and Act on Safety Concerns

a. Location of Defibrillators

b. Refresher Demonstration

A training on the location and use of the defibrillators will be arranged with the Rescue Squad.

8. Discuss Obama Care App.

9. Review Town-wide notification Systems

10. Block Island Bulletin Board

a. Receive update on activity

b. Discuss and act on Google Groups Calendar Program

The agenda items # 8, 9 and 10 were tabled to the next meeting.

Ms. Pierce moved to amend the agenda to discuss procedures for a new hire. Ms. Henault seconded the motion and it carried.

Ayes 7 (Pierce, DeMaggio, Martin, Henault, Hopf, Spak, Wright) Nays 0
Absent 2 (Graham, Kelly)

Discussion ensued regarding the process for hiring a new coordinator. Ms. Spak will coordinate with the Town Manager's Office to advertise the position.

Thanks was again offered to Kathleen Mitchell for her tireless efforts.

Next Meeting – June 18, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.

At 10:50 a.m. a motion was made by Ms. Spak and seconded by Ms. Wright to adjourn and unanimously approved.

Millie McGinnes
Deputy Town Clerk

Minutes approved: June 18, 2013