

Senior Advisory Board Meeting  
Wednesday, February 21, 2007  
2:00 PM  
Hopewell Valley Branch of Mercer County Library

Attending: Lawrence Mansier, Bill Farmer, Jean Harrington, Bob Riley, Paul Schierer, Jane Petrie, Virginia Silliphant, Severino DiCocco

Excused: Anne Bolick

Abigail Waugh— Senior Coordinator

Anne Thornton – Guest & CEO, Hopewell Valley “Y”

Prior to the official meeting, Chairman Mansier introduced Dianne Miller and Andrea Merrick, operators of our host local Hopewell Valley County Library, who outlined their intended program of delivering books to those who are unable to travel to the library. They further suggested that perhaps this program might somehow mesh with the programs for Hopewell seniors and further discussed the large collection of the library and the need for volunteers to help with the program.

The Meeting was brought to order at 2:10 by Chairman Mansier. Notice was made of meeting the Open Public Meetings Act requirements. The proposed minutes of the January Meeting were adjusted by eliminating the 2<sup>nd</sup> paragraph of the "Transportation" section and then subsequently approved.

#### Coordinator Report

Coordinator Waugh again presented her litany of activities and programs. These are too comprehensive to fully discuss here, but highlights are as follows:

- The monthly newsletter will be titled *Senior Spirit* as suggested by Nancy Brown, retired teacher of most of Pennington elementary students of the past several decades.
  - The Pennington Post will entertain a monthly column by the Coordinator and will donate copies of the paper to the Senior Center.
  - The Artists Choice program continues to prosper.
  - Swing into Spring intergenerational dance scheduled for April 28.
  - A "how-to" class for senior caregivers will be presented every Tuesday night in May at the Senior Center.
  - Pennington Borough Council has discussed and will consider updates to the current senior center.
- .....

## Chairman

Chairman Mansier encourages SAB members to attend the upcoming Hopewell Township planning meeting and also the meeting on Feb. 27<sup>th</sup> including all members of the township committees.

All Hopewell Valley Seniors have been "comped" to the dress rehearsal of the musical "South Pacific" at the high school and the Chairman suggested that SAB members spread the word and attend themselves.

It was noted that Chairman Mansier will be honored by the Masons at 7 PM March 14 at the Pennington Masons Hall.

It was noted that the Township administration is being reorganized. Although it was universally regretted that Bruce Hilling (a continual participant and booster of the SAB) will be leaving, it was discussed that the new administrators seemed to be aligned with the goals of the SAB and have particular professional skills which may help with site and construction projects.

## Committee Reports

### Transportation

Ride Provide is a local transportation company organized October 1 of last year and is a derivative company of ITN (able to accept governmental assistance). The qualifications for service are similar, 65 years old or visually impaired, but the new company will charge on a "zone fee" basis. The SAB will continue to follow this organization and integrate it into planning.

### Sites

Bill Farmer reviewed recent contacts relating to potential building sites and also reviewed the data presented to the township relating to daily demands created by the proposed center. Such data will be used to qualify or disqualify specific parcels identified in our studies to date.

Chairman Mansier maintained that the issue of site selection was the key element in proceeding with our plans for a new Center. Toward that end, he established a meeting for April 9 to discuss this and other related issues.

## Guest

Anne Thornton of the "Y" briefly discussed her organization's plans for Hopewell Valley. Although they continue the investigations regarding site and scope, it is their intention to have a well-prepared plan before inviting public comment, given the preliminary angst created by the football program, the athletic fields, etc. Although it is unlikely that the "Y" and the senior activity will ever share a facility, the "Y" is considered an ally and supplier of complementary services to the senior activity.

## Membership

The committee wished Paul Scheirer well in his move to the senior community in Pennsylvania. Accordingly, Nils Stout of Pennington will replace Paul on the SAB, effective as soon as Pennington so indicates.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:01 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:

Bob Riley: Secretary

Next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday**, March **14**, 2:00 at the County Library.