

**Senior Advisory Board Meeting**  
**Wednesday, April 18, 2007**  
**2:00 PM**  
**Hopewell Valley Branch of Mercer County Library**

Attending: Lawrence Mansier, Bill Farmer, Jean Harrington, Bob Riley, Jane Petrie, Virginia Silliphant, Severino DiCocco, Anne Bolick, Nils Stout  
Abigail Waugh– Senior Coordinator  
Vanessa Sandom – Hopewell Twp. Mayor (Primarily after agenda issues)  
Public: Helen Lee

The Meeting was brought to order at 2: 05 by Chairman Mansier. Notice was made of meeting the Open Public Meetings Act requirements. The proposed minutes of the March meeting were approved.

**Coordinator Report**

Coordinator Waugh presented her litany of activities and programs. New activities or others of note are as follows:

In general, attendance has been more than satisfactory at most events.

20 people showed up for the mahjonnng lesson and associated games.

17 people took the CPR training class.

120 people have signed up for the "Swing into Spring" or "Senior Prom" event. (It turned out to be a highly successful "event of the year")

A "Mr. Fixit" activity is being discussed for potential introduction wherein volunteers do skilled or agility related (but menial) tasks for seniors by appointment.

An account is being set-up wherein the Senior Services Dept. can bill, collect and disburse funds relating to its own activity.

The Senior Coordinator and the Advisory Committee will appear at Pennington Day in conjunction with the specialty transportation provider, FISH.

**Chairman**

Chairman Mansier reminded the SAB of the upcoming Dinner at the Pennington Masonic Lodge where he will justifiably receive recognition for his numerous civic contributions.

There was a SAB discussion that there seemed to be some interest on the part of the "Y" that we make a coordinated proposal for a specific parcel that might accommodate both activities. The ensuing discussion evolved around the fact that the "Y" and we are currently looking independently for a parcel with some similar features but with different constituencies, different access to funds and support, different postures to all levels of potentially involved governmental agencies and a desire to provide different ambience to its users. This was tabled until we learned more of several specific parcels that seem to be in play.

Chairman Mansier advised the SAB that he and the committee would meet with the lawyer to initiate drafting of our 501 (c.) (3) documents.

**Committee Reports**

Grants: There was some discussion that there may be development funds perpetually "earmarked" for the benefit of seniors in the Hopewell Valley. This will have to be ferreted out at the County and/or State levels, as few current governmental operatives participated when these rumored funds are were established.

Sites: This issue was tabled pending current activity at the Township.

Transportation: The current activities of Ride Provide and ITN were presented. It would seem that, on a positive note, there is considerable activity on the part of 4-6 entities attempting to create equilibrium in providing the necessary specific transportation-on-demand for seniors and other less than hearty within the County.

#### New Business

Mayor Sandom asked for the floor to talk about some activity on the part of the Township regarding a potentially attractive site that might be a suitable locale for all of the current special constituent development projects on the Township docket, i. e. Seniors, "Y" and Teens. Initially, this seemed to be received as a recommendation for a polyglot "Community Center" that might not mesh with the plans of each of the individual players. Further discussion revealed that there might be some tolerance for sharing only those services or facilities where efficiencies are blatantly obvious and that rooms, entrances and other spaces might be indigenous to each of the individual operatives, regardless of whether they share common walls, heating and cooling facilities, kitchens, whatever. The issue was raised about the co-mingling of capital or operating expenses from different entities with different corporate charters, tax status and contributors. Mayor Sandom agreed that these were complicated issues, as were those associated ones relating to the municipalities, but suggested that these needn't be solved prior to conceptual agreement that the parties were willing to work jointly in ascertaining if the site was available and the general plan was feasible. She also suggested that if such plan were put in motion it would probably reach fruition in a much more timely manner than if each attempted to facilitate independently.

Upon the conclusion of more discussion of the complexities of the proposal, the Mayor conducted a poll of the SAB and found that no member recommended that the seniors not participate in the planning stages, but degrees of enthusiasm varied, and most seemed to think it proper that each activity have the preponderance of its activity in its own controlled spaces.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:48 PM.

Respectfully Submitted:  
Bob Riley: Secretary

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday, May 16, 2:00 at the County Library.