

Senior Advisory Board Meeting
Wednesday, December 17, 2008
2:00 PM
Hopewell Valley Senior Center

Attending: Larry Mansier, Bill Farmer, Anne Bolick, Severino DiCocco, Joel May, Bob Riley, Virginia Silliphant, Jean Harrington, Nils Stout

Senior Coordinator: Abigail Waugh

Chairman Mansier brought the Meeting to order at 2:09. Notice was made of meeting the Open Public Meetings Act requirements.

The previous minutes were approved as submitted

Senior Services Coordinator

The local Girl Scout troop has approached the Coordinator, seeking a project related to the current Senior Center for which they could earn a Silver Award. After some discussion and the recognition that the building has no urgent unmet demands, tentatively the project will consist of the scouts creating decorative hanging murals for the Center.

Regarding the center itself, estimates are being gathered for the renovation of the third lavatory and a potential repair contact was suggested to fix the stove.

Mayor Sandom and Coordinator Waugh, assisted by a few SAB members, have organized a draft "storyline" to be presented to each of the three municipalities regarding our initiatives on a truly functional facility. Such refined presentation will be made in early 2009 in the hopes that the costs of preliminary activities along with the modest current operating expenses can be incorporated in the current budget process. Additionally, the board hopes to plant the notion in the municipal leaders that we will need their sponsorship in securing county funds. During later detailed discussions, all but two of the members encouraged a full-out effort to secure agenda space on early year municipal meetings.

The number of rides for seniors in November amounted to 146. Details regarding 2009 have been sent to all current participants.

Coordinator Waugh is compiling a list of transportation contacts at each religious congregation in order to address unmet transportation needs in this area.

Special events for January are as follows:

- Laughter Club – Starts Jan. 5
- HW Seniors Connect – Media on the Web
- Bingo
- Reverse Mortgages Presentation
- Elder Fraud Presentation

Chairman's Report

Chairman Mansier reported those issues on the mind of the County Department of Human Services:

- Benefits screening
- Transportation
- County Newsletter
- Information on caregivers
- Socialization issues

Several board members thought it appropriate that the SAB investigate the feasibility of sponsoring a topical learning program resembling that of "Evergreen" in Princeton. Accordingly, a committee consisting of Larry, Abigail, Ginny, Joel and Anne will investigate and make recommendations.

The committee for a new SAB brochure showed a preliminary proposal. It was decided that inclusion of the Foundation might lead to confusion. Accordingly, the committee will meet again, redraft to brochure and bring it to the January meeting.

It was reported that the "Y" will have a new local director whom we hope will continue to work with us in developing the Pennington property to include a senior facility.

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The meeting was adjourned at 4:06

Respectfully Submitted:

Bob Riley: Secretary

Next meeting scheduled for **Wednesday**, January 21, 2009, 2:00 at the HV Senior Center