

Minutes: Mayor's Seniors Advisory Committee

Monday, March 26, 2018, 10:45 am

Senior Center, 5 Williams Street, Saratoga Springs, NY

Attending:

Barbara Thomas, Janet Howells, Jay Portnoy, Lois Celeste (Senior Center), Ann Sheppard, Dee Sarno, Virginia Muller, Denise Yanacci (Office of the Aging), Meg Kelly (Mayor), Lisa Shields (Deputy Mayor), Bree Hassell (Intern Senior Center), Nancy Cameron, Phil Diamond, Mary Ellen Ryall, and Nedra Stimpfle.

The meeting was called to order at 10:45 am.

1. Minutes from the last meeting of February 26, 2018 were reviewed and approved.
2. Everyone introduced themselves.
3. Lois Celeste, Executive Director of the Senior Center, shared information about a program called Community Connections. Through this program volunteers are matched up with seniors to provide assistance such as: home visits, transportation, shopping and errands, household chores and much more. The mission is to help seniors age in place and maintain an independent lifestyle. For additional information, contact the Senior Center at: 518-584-1621.
4. The flyer for the Community Forum has been created by Dee Sarno, Barb Thomas and Ann Sheppard. The date of the forum is May 23 from 3 to 4:30 PM at the Embury Café. The flyers will soon be ready for print. Barb T. suggested that they be printed on a bright yellow paper to make them stand out. We are guessing that we may need +-600 copies. The Mayor's office will print 200, the Senior Center has offered 200 copies and we will need to find a way to make the additional copies needed.
5. Our distribution committee, Jay Portnoy, Janet Howells, Barb Thomas and Virginia Muller are defining the target areas by using the Cities voting districts. The first target area of the city is North of Church St., N of Van Dam, NW of the Arterial, W of Route 9, SE of the railroad track. This area includes Embury Apts., Woodlawn Commons and mostly residential housing. Jay has the map and an alphabetical listing of all residents over 55 years of age. Jay will contact the city and try to get a list by streets. We have discussed several ideas on distribution and are not yet sure how we'll do it.
6. The agenda for the forum was discussed but not yet decided.
7. Handicapped parking is an issue that was identified at the Fall 2017 Forum. The Mayor suggested that we put together a complete presentation to present to Peter Martin, Commissioner of Public Safety. This should include several photos showing existing handicapped spaces and areas that are in need of handicapped spaces. We need to be very detailed with our information and request.
8. Mary Ryall has brought up the issue of taxi service (or lack thereof) within the city. She did complete research of the services available which I will attach to the minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:45 am

Respectively Submitted,

Janet A Howells

**Next Meeting: April 23, 10:30 AM
At the Senior Center, 5 Williams Street, Saratoga Springs**