

Senior Advisory Committee Minutes(Unofficial)

08/02/2013

AKA Greater Hillsborough Senior Services Committee

Present: Chuck Gaides, Donna Boss, Russell Galpin, Pat Mathison, Art Stickney, Dana Brien

Meeting opened at 10:05am

Minutes: Mrs. Mathison noted that there is note left over in the third paragraph which did not get erased. Mrs. Brien noted that the words "Still Open" should be and will be deleted. Mr. Gaides made a motion to approved the minutes as corrected, Mrs. Boss seconded. The Motion Passed.

Treasurer's report: Mr. Gaides reported the residuals from North American Power totaled \$64.00 this month. The Deering Picnic 50/50 Raffle totaled \$19.00. Mrs. Mathison noted that she had given Mr. Gaides a number of deposits and reimbursement requests this morning so the other numbers are not current. Mr. Gaides and Mrs. Mathison will be meeting to make sure that the deposits are made to the correct account. Mr. Gaides will bring the items that need to go to the Senior Advisory accounts at the Town of Hillsborough. Mrs. Brien let the committee know that the ledger correction for the July postage reimbursement would be going through as a removal of the line with the "mileage" note and a replacement with the correct description, "postage." Mrs. Brien also mentioned that there was a \$112 charge from Premier Printing attributed to Mr. Gaides that had no description on the bill. Mr. Gaides will check into the expense and check in with Mrs. Campbell and Mrs. Brien at Town Offices.

Mrs. Boss let Mr. Galpin know that she had returned the bubble machine to his daughter.

APRONS: Mr. Gaides ordered aprons from Premier Printing as well, and the order has been placed with Suzanne White to do the embroidery. They should be completed in September. He has not gotten a firm price on the project yet as Ms. White has to evaluate the labor and materials involved in the design first.

Insurance bill: Mrs. Mathison received the next bill for the old liability policy purchased before the committee was officially recognized as a committee of the town of Hillsborough. Mrs. Mathison asked if the necessary paperwork had been sent to the Town's insurance company (PLT) to ensure that the committee would be covered for activities both in and out of Hillsborough. Mrs. Brien stated that the letter was in the hands of the Town Administrator and would be received by PLT before the old policy cancelled. Mrs. Mathison noted that the policy ends on August 20, and she will want confirmation that the letter has been received by PLT before not paying the old policy.

Parade: Mrs. Boss reported that the parade effort went very well. Greater Hillsboro Senior Services achieved third place. It was a fun project and brought a lot of folks together. Mrs. Mathison had heard from Steve Mogavero that as he was driving the truck, he heard many comments from folks who hadn't known GHSS existed. So it brought a lot of great publicity, too.

Mrs. Boss asked why there have been no advertisements or community notices in the local papers? Mrs. Brien pointed out that the Messenger ran their "Senior Outreach" issue and the editors did not seek out any information on the local activities, although she had notified Mr. Bosse of the efforts of the committee. Mr. Gaides asked what the lead time is for inclusion in the paper. Mrs. Mathison asked if anyone knew the advertising cost for the papers. Mrs. Brien asked if anyone knows of interested

volunteers who could focus on bombarding the local papers with information regarding our activities. Mr. Galpin suggested trying to get a regular feature in the local papers. Mrs. Mathison has someone in mind and will check with them to see if they are interested.

Thank you for Bernie and Marie: Mrs. Mathison has been approached by others regarding a thank you gift card for Bernie and Marie for their assistance during the parade preparations. Mr. Gaides reported that Yvonne Wiegelman has already sent a card. Mr. Galpin stated that he felt this is sufficient. It sets a dangerous precedent to send gift cards to all who give time or effort to the committee. The committee agreed that thank you cards are the most appropriate way to recognize this

10:30 Art left.

Mrs. Boss was asked to please make sure that Hope Thomas and Barbara Gaskell also receive a thank you. Mrs. Boss will also ask Mr. Stickney to add the thank you to the website.

Mrs. Boss also asked if it will be the committee's policy to send flowers if any of our members who are in the hospital. Mrs. Boss was under the impression that flowers had been sent to Stella Arvenataki when she had been in the hospital, but noted that Mrs. Galpin had not received any. The committee had a general discussion; no one had recollection of having approved flowers for Mrs. Arvenataki. The consensus was made that a card should be sent.

Mrs. Mathison brought up the possibility of running a free advertisement for Chadwick's Landscaping in thanks for the use of their trailer for the parade. Discussion was held. Mrs. Brien asked if the committee thought that the signs on the float were enough, and pointed out that an advertisement in the newsletter does not cost the committee anything. Mrs. Boss pointed out that if one business donor gets a free ad, all of them should. Mr. Gaides stated that volunteers give without the expectation of reward. Mrs. Brien pointed out that businesses get asked for donations from a lot of organizations. There needs to be some advantage to businesses in continuing to donate. The more a business hears that customers appreciate their support of GHSS, the more they will support GHSS. Mr. Gaides asked what will be done if someone gives a larger donation. Mr. Galpin commented that when Wyman's gave the town a van for youth services, their name was printed on the side of the van. Mrs. Mathison stated that the general consensus was to not give gift cards for volunteers or free advertizing for donors.

Mrs. Mathison announced that stationary has been printed and is available. Mr. Gaides stated Mrs. Mathison's and Mrs. Brien's contact information is at the bottom of the stationary, and that the town fax number was listed as well.

Silver Splashers: Mrs. Mathison spoke with Katelyn at Crotched Mountain. She has a staffing issue right now due to the class schedule of the instructor who had been teaching the class last time. Katelyn promised to have a new class figured out by September 1st so the information can be included in the next newsletter.

Chef: Mrs. Mathison is looking for ideas and thoughts regarding luncheon chefs. Cindy may not be able to commit to us again, as her babysitting schedule may not allow in the fall. Mrs. Boss brought up asking

Mr. Bailey who helped with the Forum last summer or asking restaurants to donate a chef's time. Mrs. Mathison wondered if George Arvenataki would do it? Mrs. Mathison still needs to speak with Cindy. Francine Marchand will not be able to do two a month. Mr. Gaides brought up the volunteer dinners that the local churches put on, and also the new chef at the American Legion as a possibility. Mrs. Brien mentioned that the Town of Washington puts on a monthly luncheon with volunteer chefs. Each month is a different volunteer. Mr. Gaides asked Mrs. Mathison how Henniker does their luncheons, as they are listed as sponsors in the newsletter from White Birch. Mrs. Mathison stated that the sponsoring restaurants only give checks, not manpower or supplies. Mrs. Mathison will check with Cindy this weekend, and look into the other options if necessary.

Mrs. Boss received a call from Nancy Michael who is doing the signs for all involved in the Living History event this year. Discussion was held. The committee chose not to participate this year, but has a strong interest in participating in the future.

Concerts: Mrs. Boss asked if anyone has gotten a report on how the concert snack tables had gone this year. Mrs. Mathison will check with Mrs. Peace, who is chairing this year's concert effort, and find out how it's going.

Mr. Gaides pointed out that our efforts at visibility within the community have been great, but the most successful by far has been Mrs. Mathison's visit to the Lion's Club. Mr. Gaides suggested focusing on going out the larger community groups and churches to update them on the efforts of the committee, in all the surrounding communities. Mr. Gaides also suggested making a presentation up that any committee member could use in going into the community. Mrs. Mathison stated that she has an outline of a presentation for community use, and Mrs. Brien offered to put that outline into a PowerPoint presentation for all members to use. Mrs. Mathison agreed, but stated that she would not be sending the outline until later this month.

Mr. Gaides would like to see more "fun" in our activities, such as movie night, or even a musical act or entertainment at the luncheons. Mr. Gaides let the committee know about the NH Arts Council website which lists acts which are available during the day.

Mrs. Mathison would like to do a recap of the forum and the information gathered originally last summer. This would be in September.

Mr. Galpin spoke to the committee regarding the concerns that were raised by the loss and replacement of the chafing dish tray belonging to St. Mary's Church Kitchen. Mr. Galpin would like to see more safeguards in place to ensure that no other equipment gets lost. He reminded the committee that there is a group within St. Mary's that does not want the basement used by outside groups. He stressed the importance of not giving the church any reason to ask the committee to stop using the basement facilities. Mrs. Brien suggested a list of all the materials which are borrowed so that the items can be checked off as they are returned. Mrs. Brien also pointed out that the committee as individuals are all responsible people, but that when many people work together it's easy for things to fall through the cracks. Each member expressed their commitment to being more careful in the future.

Mr. Gaides suggested that the Deering luncheon in September be a picnic lunch again. Also, Mr. Gaides asked the committee to discuss ideas for making the luncheon more affordable for those seniors having trouble paying for the luncheon. He mentioned the coupons that were used previously. Mrs. Brien suggested having no set cost for the luncheon and have people pay what they can. Mr. Galpin stated that some who can afford it wont pay it because they are cheap. Mrs. Brien suggested a “pay it forward” where we invite people to pay for the person behind them in line.

Mrs. Brien notified the committee that she will be bringing the van to the “working on Social Security” seminar at the Assistive Technology center in Concord on August 22.

Mr. Galpin moved to adjourn the meeting, Mrs. Brien seconded. The motion passed.

Meeting ended at 2:45pm

Respectfully submitted,

Dana P Brien