

Senior Citizen Advisory Committee (SCAC) Minutes

Tuesday, February 26, 2019

Present: Cathy Brannan, Marti Galvin, Jeannette Grotke (chair elect), Elisabeth Kevorkian, Frank Pearlman, Ronnie Scotkin (chair), Betty Timer (secretary), Warren Wilcox, Becky Sutfin (City liaison)

Absent: Henry Haslinger (excused), David West (unexcused)

Guests: April Ashpes, Alexa Lauber

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 by chair, Ronnie Scotkin. The agenda was approved (moved by Jeannette Grotke and seconded by Frank Pearlman.) The minutes of the previous meeting were approved (moved by Marti Galvin and seconded by Frank Pearlman.)

OLD BUSINESS:

Greenbelt Connection- Alexa Lauber, guest speaker and scheduler for the Connection gave an information flyer to each member that included the cost, the present hours of operation and the rules for riders.

One of our questions from the Open Forum was: *Can the hours of operation be elongated?* The answer is that they are dictated by the monies allocated by the present City budget. If the budget for the next fiscal year was expanded, more hours could be given. *What is the distance the bus can go, and can that be extended?* Presently the bus goes to all sites in Greenbelt within a 5-mile radius. Ronnie asked if shopping trips to Greenbelt locations could be scheduled so that many people who desire the same location could be scheduled for the same time. Ms. Lauber said that the suggestion would be considered. Marti asked if a special event needed transportation, how was that handled? All such requests should be made in writing to Jim Sterling, Director of Public Works.

FORA/GAIL update- Free produce distribution is March 7, and April 4. GAIL will be offering a free *Estate Planning Clinic* on Thursday, March 21 from 10:00-3:00 at the City Council Chambers. Call 443-703-3052 to register between February 11 and March 11. To attend you must register.

Widowed Persons update- Don Rich will offer a six-session program on Saturdays beginning March 9 from 1:00 to 3:00 in the Community Centers Senior Lounge. To register, call 301-693-5210 or email wisboy929@yahoo.com

Staircase edging update- The written report for City Council is not yet complete. It was suggested that we invite Jim Sterling to talk to us about this issue after our meeting with City Council.

Not For Seniors Only- Three topics were discussed. They were: *government services* to include Medicare, Medicaid, Disabilities, Mental health, etc., *financial survival* to include personal budgets, putting your money together in one place, estate planning, etc., and *alternative therapies* to include acupuncture, aroma therapy, mindfulness therapy, and acupressure. Ronnie asked members to vote on their preference. Alternative therapies was selected. It was decided by the next meeting Becky will contact possible speakers for the first three therapies. Ronnie will contact a speaker on acupressure.

NEW BUSINESS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Marti informed the committee of an upcoming event called. Participants will walk from Greenbelt Station through Franklin Park to Old Greenbelt and finish at Schrom Hills. People may seek their own level of participation--sitting on roadsides, walking, wheelchair riding, joining up along the route or walking the whole way--young, old, all are encouraged to participate! This event has had unanimous approval from Greenbelt City Council and Greenbelt Police. A schedule follows.

Becky said that the March 2, 3, and 9 Chris Cherry will present his winter musical, *Homeward Bound*. AARP Drivers Program sponsored by GIVES is on March 18 from 9:30-3. Call GIVES to reserve your spot. Tax Aid sponsored by AARP is at the Greenbelt Fire Station. May is older American Month. Expect to see many educational programs.

A motion to adjourn (moved by Marti Galvin and seconded by Jeannette Grotke.)

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Timer

Secretary

The next meeting is at 3:30pm on March 26, 2019.



Help Unite Greenbelt

HUG WALK

March 31, 2019

1:00 pm



RUAK (Random Unselfish Acts of Kindness) presents the HUG WALK on March 31st, walking to Help Unite Greenbelt. All Greenbelters are invited to participate. There is no cost to you or your community.

Join the HUG WALK in any of the Greenbelt neighborhoods and continue through each of the areas, or, if you are unable to walk, participate by cheering your neighbors on as we pass by.

1:00 PM - gathering at the Indian Creek Trail bridge across from the Shell Station on Cherrywood Lane

1:30 PM - HUG WALK STEP OFF

2:00 PM - join the HUG WALK at Springhill Lake Recreation Center

2:30 PM - join the HUG WALK at Buddy Attick Lake Park

3:00 PM - join the HUG WALK at Roosevelt Center

3:30 PM - join the HUG WALK at Greenbriar Community Center

4:00 PM - join the HUG WALK at Windsor Green Community Center

4:30 PM - CELEBRATE the HUG WALK's finish at Schrom Hills Park



Parking is available at Beltway Plaza, provided in the spirit of community by Beltway Plaza.

Greenbelt Connection will provide shuttle service from each of the join in locations back to your starting point.

Show your Greenbelt Pride by wearing Greenbelt apparel!

Scouts can earn a patch or badge for participating.

Students can earn community service credit for volunteering.

Food donations for the Greenbelt Food Pantry can be dropped off at each of the join in locations.

For more information, contact Robert Goldberg-Strassler at SpreadRUAK@gmail.com or 301.345.8755.