

Senior Citizen Advisory Committee (SCAC) Minutes

Tuesday, November 19, 2019

Present: April Ashpes, Cathy Brannan, Marti Galvin, Elisabeth Kevorkian, Betty Timer (secretary), Ronnie Scotkin, David West , and Rebekah Suffin (City Liaison),

Absent: Frank Pearlman *excused*, Henry Haslinger *unexcused*, Warren Wilcox *unexcused*, Silke Pope (Council Liaison)

Guest: Heike Nyland, Patuxent Widowed Persons Service Treasurer.

The meeting was called to order at 3:40pm by chair, Marti Galvin. The October minutes were approved (moved by Ronnie Scotkin, and seconded by Elisabeth Kevorkian). The November Agenda was approved (moved by Cathy Brannan, and seconded by Elisabeth Kevorkian).

OLD BUSINESS:

GAIL update: The next food distributions occurring at Springhill Lake Elementary is December 5, January 2, February 6, March 5, April 2, and May 7 @ 1:30pm-3:00pm. *Time was confirmed by Katherine Farzin* was published in the GAIL guide incorrectly.

Widowed Persons update: Ms. Nyland was introduced as the Patuxent Widowed Persons Service Treasurer and facilitator for the Bowie chapter. She and two other women facilitate the group each week. They have been very successful (with ~14 participants) with the help of publicizing the meetings online, flyers, etc. Ms. Nyland stated that they are not professional grief counselors but are all widowed and have experienced grief. She stated that they operate with the AARP curriculum, but also 'go with the flow' of the group. The group is open to all ages; facilitators take the teamwork approach and encourage all to speak about their experiences. In order for Ms. Nyland and others to host a group in Greenbelt, they would need to receive permission from Don Rich, President of the chapter. The committee informed Ms. Nyland that we would discuss the options and get back to her.

Becky spoke with the grief counselor at Doctor's Hospital. They only host their group at the hospital. Offerings to a group outside the Hospital was not an option.

Open Forum Letter to Council: The final letter was signed and sent to Mayor Byrd and City Council.

NEW BUSINESS:

2020 meeting dates were approved.

Not For Seniors Only topic was discussed- ideas were given and be will discussed at the next meeting.

AARP- Becky will email the committee the links and the referral from City Council. A discussion will occur in the new year.

Recruiting new member- Marti mentioned that she would speak to the Golden Age Club at their next meetings to see if anyone is interested in joining SCAC. It was recommended that we submit an article to the News Review- check with Henry to see if he still has the article.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Next meeting is scheduled for January 28, 2020 at 3:30pm.

Meeting was adjourned at 4:53pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Rebekah Sutfin, City Liaison