

Senior Citizen Advisory Committee (SCAC) Minutes

Tuesday, January 28, 2020

Present: Cathy Brannan, Marti Galvin (chair), Henry Haslinger, Elisabeth Kevorkian, Frank Pearlman, Betty Timer (secretary), David West, Warren Wilcox, Becky Sutfin (City liaison), Silke Pope (Council liaison)

Absent: April Ashpes (excused), Ronnie Scotkin (excused)

Guests: Greg Varda

The meeting was called to order at 3:30 by chair, Marti Galvin. The agenda was approved (moved by Cathy Brannan and seconded by Elisabeth Kevorkian.) The minutes of the previous meeting were approved (moved by Warren Wilcox and seconded by Cathy Brannan).

Recognition Groups- Grant Workshop representative Chair, Marti Galvin asked the committee to accommodate Greg Varda's request to consider this topic first on the agenda. He spoke about the reason for the grant, responsibilities and the process of this group, and need to have one of our members on this group. Marti made a solicitation for a committee member to volunteer. Cathy Brannan said she would consider the request and reply at the next meeting.

OLD BUSINESS:

GAIL update The next food distributions occur at Springhill Lake Elementary on February 6, March 5, April 2, and May 7 @ 1:30pm-3:00pm. She also distributed a flyer about the Caregiver Education Lecture Series. The talks will be on the first Tuesdays in February, March, and April at 1:00 in the Community Center on the lowest level. The topics are *Why and When should I Apply for Medicaid, Preparing to be a Family Caregiver, and Creating a Safe Senior Home and Dealing with Behavioral Issues of Dementia.*

Widowed Persons update The next session begins on Tuesdays, March 3 from 10:00am -12:00pm in the Community Center. There will be six meetings.

Recruiting New SCAC Members Our committee will soon have a need for two new members. We are asked to assist in finding them.

Step Safety Initiative Betty read a letter she wrote that could be sent to City Council about the issue. The committee responded favorably. The next step is for Becky to supply the photos she has taken to add to the letter.

NEW BUSINESS:

Not For Seniors Only Topic Four topics were considered. They were dental insurance for seniors, coping with loneliness, the positive results of physical therapy and downsizing. The topic chosen was downsizing. Our next challenge is to find speakers for this topic. The event is June 6.

Council Referral- AARP Study A discussion that centered around the pros and cons of the City's entering this program was led by Marti and Elisabeth. However, Betty read an excerpt from AARPs announcement that said "Planned Community's" were not accepted in the program. Becky said she would investigate whether the City of Greenbelt could be accepted.

Council Referral- Celebration for 100 Year Old's Marti asked two questions. How will the City find out who they are? What does the committee think would be a good way of celebrating their lives? The committee was asked to consider the issue. The item was tabled until the next meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Becky announced the need for all citizens to complete the information for the 2020 census. She distributed the City of Greenbelts Black History Month Program.

Silke asked the committee to support Governor Hogan's *Tax Relief for Maryland Retirees* House Bill 342 and Senate Bill 248.

It was suggested that we invite Jim Sterling, Public Works Director, to come to our next meeting.

A motion to adjourn (moved by David West and seconded by Warren Wilcox.)

Respectfully submitted,

Betty Timer

Secretary

The next meeting is on February 25 at 3:30pm.