



# TOWN OF HUDSON

## Senior Affairs Committee



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12 School Street Hudson, New Hampshire 03051 Tel: 886-6024

### Minutes September 21, 2016

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Attendance

Joe Cannava  
Nancie Caron  
Shirley Durivage  
Sue Hovling  
Gwen Bujnowski Madry  
Steve Porter  
Angela Routsis  
Joanne Snook

4. Absent- none
5. Non Members Attending

Lori Bowen- Senior Services Coordinator  
Dave Yates- Recreation Director

6. Public Input- None

Last meeting minutes approved 8-0

7. Coordinator's Report

The current newsletter is for September/October/November 2016 and Bowen has introduced an adult coloring activity to Mondays and a bridge card group and quilting group to Wednesdays. The Hudson Firefighters will continue to visit the Senior Center on the first Tuesday of every month for various seminars. On the last Tuesday of the month, the Hudson Senior Center will still offer the Coffee with the Cops discussion forum.

The North Barn is excited to announce they will be hosting a comedy night, a flu shot clinic, a concert, and a bowling tournament in the upcoming weeks, so please see the newsletter for reserve a spot.

Bowen was pleased to report that the summer luau brought in 250 attendees and was the biggest event that Saint Joseph's Meals on Wheels has ever hosted. At the summer cookout, there were line dancing, hula lessons, lots of food and laughs had by all.

In October, the Mass College of Pharmacy in Manchester will be coming down to host a blood pressure clinic. Pickleball will resume indoors for the winter months on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9am to 12pm and alongside Pickleball, there will be the newly purchased Cornhole boards for members to enjoy.

## 8. 2017 Budget

Dave Yates began by explaining that he used the 2016 budget to build the budget for the upcoming year and adjusted the dollars to better suit the needs of the center, coming in at 1.7% less than last years. For example, Yates pointed out that there were two items that were eliminated from the upcoming budget. He and Bowen noticed that Item 226 "Film Developing" was not needed and Item 238 "Postage" was charged to the Recreation Department's budget and an item was not needed under the Senior Center's. But Yates added two new items this year; Item 217 "Association Fees" for Lori's membership to the New Hampshire Association of Senior Centers and Item 235 for Lori's seat in attending conferences in NH. Bowen explained the increase for Item 270 "Program Materials" is due to replacing certain games, such as playing cards, and running a variety of programs. Selectwoman Routsis asked about the drastic decrease in funds for Item 214 "Notices, Newspaper Ads" and Bowen explained that the funds were not necessary and could be allocated to another area where it could be better utilized.

According to the Board of Selectmen, Bowen's salary has been approved to increase 2% for the upcoming year. With the support of the Senior Affairs Committee and Senior center members, we were hoping to have Bowen take on a full time position and keep the center open longer and/or testing a night(s) and Saturdays to bring in more members. If the Board of Selectmen approve this motion to bring on Bowen full time, then Bowen would receive benefits and would increase the budget by \$19,807. If the BOS choose to keep Bowen as part time but increase the number of days the center is open, the town may need to hire an assistant for an additional \$11,755 for the newly added hours. If there is support to open the center on Fridays, Bowen has a schedule ready to launch.

Hovling mentioned that the Nashua Senior Center partnered up with Rivier University for certain activities, one being crafts. But Hovling also mentioned that there have been some historical educational activities that were performed by actors and Hovling thought that would be something to add to the Hudson Senior Center calendar.

Snook added that she loves the North Barn and the feeling it gives her when she walks through the doors. She feels that there is a sense of family and belonging.

## 9. Strategic Planning Process

The Strategic Planning Committee has met a few times up to this point with the most recent meeting held on Thursday, October 29<sup>th</sup> 2015. In those meetings, the members have developed a SWOT analysis and discussed survey questions to improve the level of satisfaction with the center.

After the data is recorded and analyzed, Porter would like to form focus groups to target certain areas to put objectives into motion. In these groups, the committee hopes to form a collective strategic 1 to 5 year plan for the Senior Center with the help of Elaine Brody. She has volunteered to gather additional input from those who provided contact information on the surveys. Chairman Porter also informed the committee that Brody asked students from Rivier to assist with the focus groups for the strategic planning process for the Rodgers Library and hope to do

the same with the Senior Center. The next Strategic Planning meeting will be scheduled after analyzing the data.

#### 10. Other Issues

Cannava wanted to express his excitement in the popularity of Pickleball among the seniors and can see it gaining momentum. His next area of focus is the game of Cornhole. Cornhole is a game of two teams, taking turns tossing a beanbag-like sack into a hole on the opponent's board.

Cannava also brought up the idea of replacing the Community Center's floor. He has expressed concern as the Seniors are moving some activities there because of space constraints of the North Barn. Yates explained that it is too expensive to replace at this time.

#### 11. Closing Remarks

Hovling wanted to share a recent letter she received from the NH Association of Senior Centers inviting her to the annual fall conference. Bowen will be attending the same conference on September 30<sup>th</sup>. The new commissioner of Health and Human Services will be in attendance and Hovling asked local veterans if there was anything that she could mention on their behalf. Those she spoke with expressed priority in the area of healthcare and possibly a place to gather to enjoy cards. Hovling said in recent years, drinking has dropped in popularity with veterans and they wish to gather for recreational events instead. Hovling thought it could be a possibility that the Senior Center may be able to provide space for said veterans.

Cannava wanted to congratulate Bowen on a terrific summer luau. Bowen decorated the Community Center beautifully and it was a successful event and Cannava expects it to gain popularity in the future.

#### 12. Calendar

Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday November 16<sup>th</sup>.

#### 13. Adjournment

Motion to Adjourn 8-0

Total Meeting Minutes 00:56:11