



TOWN OF HUDSON

Senior Affairs Committee



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

Minutes April 15, 2015 Meeting

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance taken

Attendance: Gwen Bujnowski
Joe Cannava
Sue Hovling
Shirley LaFreniere
Pat Nichols - Liaison
Steve Porter
Joanne Snook

Non Members Attending:

Lori Bowen Senior Services Coordinator
Dave Yates Recreation Director

Public Input: None

Last meeting minutes were approved 4-0-2.

New Committee Alternate Member Gwen Bujnowski was introduced.

An update on the status of the Strategic Planning Process and an initial meeting is being targeted for Mid-June. Members of the Committee were asked to think about assembling a list of names of individuals who may add value and should be considered for this planning process.

The policy had been brought to the Selectmen but Town Administrator Steve Malizia had decided to make some minor changes to the document so it will be brought to the BOS at a later date for approval.

Lori went over the newest newsletter and some of the more recently implemented programs and activities.

Lori stated that an Eagle Scout in Hudson was interested in completing a project for an outdoor patio. She also mentioned that it was determined that a location that was initially identified for the Bocce Ball court was determined not to be feasible so that they will be looking for an alternative spot either near Senior Center or on the grounds of Benson Park. There happens to be an expansion Parking Lot Plan that prevents the implementation of a new Bocce Court on the present Senior Center grounds and that is the reason for looking for an alternative site.

Dave Yates provided an update on Pickleball. Dave stated that they will be building a court in the old Skate Park and that a shuffleboard court will also be built there. Joe Cannava asked about an indoor Pickleball court and Dave stated that a couple of courts will be designed in the Community Center but that will be available on a seasonal basis since during the Summer the youth program is administered at this site. Lori stated that they have initially looked at the way Pickleball is administered in different towns and that her and Dave will come up with a plan as how to best administer the program.

Lori went over registration numbers and the number of individuals for specific programs. Lori mentioned that the space for the aerobics and line dancing program was tight given the limited space available and the need for individuals to have enough space to move.

A brief overview of Survey Monkey was provided that included costs, response levels, and some of the functionality facets. Additional options as to how to distribute the survey and collect the responses were broached as well.

Lori stated that she will be providing to the Committee a copy of the new Registration form and the questions that are being asked on this form.

Sue Hovling mentioned the fact that recently there was a group of youths that interacted in an activity with Seniors and she felt that this type of intergenerational activity was good. She mentioned that she heard that some were in opposition to this type of activity. Selectmen Nichols provided her view in that there were a number of Seniors who worked hard over the years to ensure that funds would be raised to help build a Senior Center that would be used exclusively by Seniors. Selectmen Nichols said it is all well and good to have youth come over and sing around Christmas time and perform but that this Senior Center was meant to only be used by Seniors. Selectmen Nichols expressed the concern among Seniors that their building could be used by others when it was only meant for Seniors. Selectmen Nichols suggested that if activities were to be undertaken between different generations then it should be conducted at an alternative facility like the Community Center. Joanne Snook stated that she felt that it would be beneficial to have youth interact with Senior for specific activities between the two groups. Shirley Lafreniere stated that she has been to a number of other senior centers where there is interaction between Seniors and youth in specific programs. Joe Cannava suggested this be a topic of discussion in the planning process and Selectmen Nichols recommended that it be a question posed on the survey that is eventually developed. Dave Yates stated that there is a policy in place and that other groups cannot use the Senior Center for their activities and that it is only set up for use by Seniors.

Sue Hovling stated that the Pelham Senior Center, which was started in 1975, expanded two times. There was a combination of funding sources (town capital reserve, warrant article, council on aging, and fundraising activities) that were used to raise funds.

Selectmen Nichols brought it to the Committee's attention that an election of Officers for the next year should be voted on and it was agreed to have this take place at the meeting in May.

Motion to adjourn was approved 7-0.
58 minutes