



TOWN OF HUDSON

Senior Affairs Committee



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

Senior Affairs Committee Minutes March 25, 2015

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance taken

Attendance: Joe Cannava
Sue Hovling
Shirley LaFreniere
Joanne Snook
Steve Porter

Member Absent: Roger Coutu – Selectmen Liaison

Non Members Attending: Lori Bowen Senior Services Coordinator
Dave Yates Recreation Director

Public Input: None

Last meeting minutes were approved 5-0.

Elaine Brody provided an overview of the Strategic Planning Process.

Some of the topics she briefly went over included the following:

- Develop a SWOT analysis
- 10 -12 people in the first group at a workshop
- Plan a survey
- Both those already involved at Senior Center and those not involved should be part of the groups
- Determine why some seniors have not joined
- Determine what will bring them in
- Survey 10-15 questions
- Questions that people think would be good in a survey
- Have all those that attend the first workshop provide some questions
- Use Survey Monkey. The cost is dependent on how long the survey is and it is not a lot of money.
- Survey should be only 2-3 weeks for respondents to return.

- Various distribution channels for surveys
- 500 surveys received back from the HLN when Library went through process
- 10-14% return
- Most effective vehicle was the Survey Monkey
- In the information in the survey on HLN identified that respondents could use the Survey Monkey on the library website
- After you get survey information back, it's time to consider getting together some focus groups. Break up by age: 55-70, 70-80 and over 80. Look at people interested in sports and look at data from those surveys to find out what people are interested in and form groups based on these interests. Focus group of people who are not seniors yet also should be included
- Review all the data of the survey and focus groups then come up with goals.
- No more than five goals/objectives.
- Then come up with some action plans and timelines for achieving those goals and objectives.
- This plan should be re-evaluated annually.

Old Business

Lori presented the policy and made mention of some changes that were made to the Policy, including firearms and freedom of speech. There was some discussion on the drink policy. Eventually the policy was approved 5-0. The policy will now be brought to the BOS for their review.

Lori briefly went over the Travel Policy and the small changes she made to that policy. Lori stated that she will ask our BOS liaison if approval from the BOS is needed.

Lori provided an update on the status of us looking at the Able Network as a resource. Lori stated that she did not think we had a need for someone through the Able Network but perhaps down the road and that could be sorted out during the strategic planning process.

Lori went over some of the new activities and programs implemented over the past month.

Joe Cannava had a question about what was the status of a bocce ball court and pickleball court. Lori stated that there had been discussion of putting in a bocce ball court and a shuffleboard court and also to build a patio. Lori provided some details on where it would be located and when it will be in Benson Park and how these will be built.

Lori mentioned a group of girl scouts who were engaged in a weaving activity with seniors.

Lori gave an update on pickleball and Joe Cannava provided a description of the game and its popularity.

Joe Cannava had stated a concern that the Senior Center needs to attract more Men at the Senior Center through marketing efforts. It was explained that through the Strategic Planning process those types of market efforts and what needs to be done to provide more programs and activities to a more diverse group of people will be evaluated.

Lori stated that she had contacted the Hudson Council on Aging and they will be purchasing a new ping pong table.

Some discussion was engaged in regarding the scheduling of activities and if there were some activities that could be shifted or eliminated in place of other activities.

Dave provided an overview of what benefits would be available as a result of the budget passing. Dave stated that the two benefits are that we could open the Senior Center for four days and that we could have maintenance person available for 10 hours a week.

Lori mentioned that a new volunteer who is a student in the Transition program at Alvirne will be working for 2 hours a week.

Chairman Porter stated that the work Lori and Dave had done was great and that we could build upon it on when we discuss the strategic planning process.

Motion to adjourn was approved 5-0.
1 Hour and 26 minutes