



TOWN OF HUDSON

Senior Affairs Committee



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

Minutes of October 15, 2014

Call to order

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance taken

Attendance: Roger Coutu, Selectmen Liaison
Dot Jacobs
Sue Hovling
Shirley LaFreniere
Steve Porter
Joanne Snook

Non Members Attending: Lori Bowen, Senior Services Coordinator

Absent: Dave Yates, Recreation Director

Last meeting minutes were approved 5-0-1.

Public Input: None

Lori Bowen indicated registration for the Senior Center increased from 452 as of 9/17/14 to 502 as of 10/14/14.

Lori provided an overview of the variety of new programs and activities that are now being offered. Some of the new programs being offered over the last month included line dancing, digital photography, arts and craft projects, ping pong table activities, speakers scheduled (includes fire safety, NH State Representatives, Dr. Woods discussion on hearing, Collette Tours discuss future trips), Christmas Party along with Council on Aging.

Committee member Hovling asked if the vile of life was available at the senior center and Lori confirmed that this was available. Chairman Porter asked if Lucille Boucher had used Collette tours in the past and Lori stated that Collette tours have been used in the past.

Lori provided some information on future trips (Washington DC, Atlantic City, two trips to Foxwoods).

Lori was asked if she brought the policy to the meeting but she stated that she didn't because Dave was not going to be at the meeting and that she would bring it to the next meeting and provide it to us in advance so that we would have time to review it.

Joanne Snook stated that she was proud of the number of programs and activities that have been made available in such a short period of time and that Lori was doing a great job.

Selectmen Coutu stated that he was very confused with the nature of the Committee and that it needs to be more proactive and discuss policymaking decision. He said that essentially all Lori did was read through the newsletter. Selectmen Coutu asked why was the policy not discussed? Chairman Porter stated that at the last meeting we were told that it would be available for this meeting but we did not receive it. Selectmen Coutu asked if we were solicited about the Budget. Chairman Porter said no. Selectmen Coutu stated that it is imperative for the Committee to see the Budget before it goes to the BOS to see if certain line items should be eliminated or added. Selectmen Coutu stated that the Committee should review the budget to see if there are items that are needed to be looked at. Selectmen Coutu suggested that the building is already overflowing and could be overcrowding and that these are some of the logistical issues that need to be addressed by the Committee. Selectmen Coutu stated that if the budget does not go through then we may not have the funds to run the Center. Roger stated that the Committee should be managing and supervising the Senior Center. Roger stated that it should be a five day a week Senior Center and that the Budget should have been brought to you and this Committee. Selectmen Coutu stated that we should insist on managing the Center. Chairman Porter thanked Selectmen Coutu for bringing it to the Committee's attention that the Budget needs to be looked at and asked him that when the preliminary agenda is sent out that if there is an issue or topic that he feels should be discussed then please bring it to the Chairman's attention so that it can be listed as a topic of discussion. Sue Hovling and Joanne Snook reiterated that the Committee was never given the Budget. Joanne Snook asked why the Budget wasn't provided and Lori stated that she did not know, but later stated that it was brought to the Recreation Committee since it was consolidated.

Joanne Snook asked if we should look at the Budget in a special meeting prior to it going to the BOS. Chairman Porter asked if the budget was unconsolidated for the Senior Center. Lori stated that the figures were prepared both as consolidated under the Recreation department and separate as a standalone budget.

Selectmen Coutu gave some examples of budget line items that could be discussed when we go over the budget. Selectmen Coutu stated the Hudson Seniors should not rely on outside sources and a discussion ensued on other topics related to equipment and other items that may be needed for the Senior Center.

Chairman Porter asked if we could still meet to review the budget. Selectmen Coutu stated yes and that it should be sent to you tomorrow morning. Chairman Porter suggested that the Budget be reviewed by the Committee and we meet separately.

It was brought up that fundraising activities could be discussed. Some potential ideas for fundraising activities were broached. Selectmen Coutu stated that he wants to have the Senior Center open five days a week and that we need to figure out how to achieve that.

Chairman Porter summarized potential topics of discussion for the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn was approved 6-0.

Public session: 1 hour and 35 minutes

The Budget was subsequently reviewed by Committee members with Dave Yates and Lori Bowen on Monday 10/20/14.