

Senior Affairs Committee Minutes 4/16/14

Call to order.

Pledge of Allegiance

Attendance taken.

Attendance: Roger Coutu – Selectman Liaison

Sue Hovling

Shirley LaFreniere

Steve Porter

Joanne Snook

Non Members Attending:

Lori Bowen Senior Services Coordinator

Dave Yates Hudson Recreation Director

Last meeting minutes were approved 4-0-1.

Lori Bowen provided an update on the building's construction progress and outside work. Lori stated that all of the building construction was essentially done and the outside work and paving was being completed. Lori stated the outside work would be completed by the Grand Opening. Lori stated that she was ordering different furniture, kitchen items and equipment over the next few weeks.

Lori provided some details regarding the Grand Opening of the Senior Center slated for Saturday 5/31/14. From 2pm-4pm that day, tours will be conducted of the Senior Center.

World Book Day is a national day where all Libraries provide books to various community organizations. On April 23rd starting at 9am Charlie Matthews from the Rogers Library was scheduled to provide books to Seniors.

Lori mentioned the fact that she was coordinating a meeting to identify individuals who can volunteer and help out with BINGO and to identify ways to maximize the weekly scheduled event and to serve as many people who are interested in playing BINGO, as possible. However, given the space constraints there could be a problem serving all that want to play. Lori broached with Dave Yates the possibility of continuing to have BINGO at the Community Center, to solve the issue of space constraints at the Senior Center. The meeting was slated for April 22nd at 1pm at the Community Center.

Lori Mentioned that AARP was providing tax help/relief at the Rogers Library, but starting 2/5/14 AARP will provide this same service also at the Hudson Senior Center.

Lori has been in conversations with Alvirne Guidance Counselors in an effort to get various student groups to help . She stated that a park bench walk throughout Benson Park was slated to occur that will be coordinated with a student group. Lori stated that she would also like to start a walking club and felt this could help promote interest in such a program. Lori is also looking to get some students help in the Kitchen or help with filing, or help with any other functions. Sue Hovling mentioned that in Pelham that high school students were required to participate in community service for a certain time frame and that the high school students helped out a lot and eventually they ended up setting up a scholarship for a senior high school student.

Selectman Liaison Coutu thanked all of the committee for welcoming him and mentioned that there are still three vacancies on the committee and encouraged individuals to come forward and serve. Selectman Coutu identified what his role is at a liaison. Selectman Coutu stressed that the BOS had the utmost confidence in Lori Bowen and Dave Yates to oversee the programs. Selectman Coutu provided a lengthy explanation of how the structure of the town government, the BOS, and the Senior Affairs Committee will work and coordinate to optimize the Senior Center. Selectman Coutu explained that certain procedures are in place to ensure that GASB and appropriate government controls are adhered too. He also stated that if any citizen has any concerns with the programs or activities, then it should be brought to the attention of the Senior Affairs Committee. Selectman Coutu stated that the Senior Center currently will only be open for three days due to the limitations of funds provided by the Default Budget.

Selectman Coutu mentioned some of the speakers and who was invited to the Grand Opening of the Senior Center on 5/31/14.

Next meeting slated for 5/21/14 at 7:30 pm

Motion to adjourn seconded and approved 5-0.

Meeting time: 42 minutes.