



DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES
Division of Senior Services
Sussex County Administrative Center
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Mary Lou Schnurr
Director

County of Sussex

Sussex County Division of Senior Services
ADVISORY BOARD MINUTES

TRI-CO Federal Credit Union Building, Augusta NJ

February 7, 2008

The meeting was called to order at 12:10 pm by Co-Chairperson Tom Caines. Introductions were made and everyone was welcomed. June Eisenecker and Carol Novrit from the Sussex County Division of Social Services were introduced as guests.

Attendance: Present were: Shirley Baldwin, Tom Caines, Ann Farnsworth, Dorothy Fausak, Nancy Hess, Doris Lantz, Kathryn Orr, Anna Mae Schurko, Deena Smith, Ilse Stein and Diane Friedberg

Excused: Elsie Allen, Elenora Benz, Stephen Bocskocsky, Jackie Wershing, Nancy Fitzgibbons and Mary Lou Schnurr.

Absent: Linda Pinto, Joyce Post, John Eskilson, Stephen Gruchacz, Jake Lighten, Alison McHose, Susan Zellman.

Guests/Senior Club Representatives: June Eisenecker and Carol Novrit.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Nancy Hess and seconded by Ann Farnsworth to approve the minutes from the January meeting. All were in favor.

Chairperson's Report

No report.

Director's Report

1. It was recommended that a By-Law Committee be established to review and make necessary changes to the By-Laws. This is mandated by the Older Americans Act and must be completed every three years. Nancy Hess, Deena Smith and Shirley Baldwin volunteered to be part of the committee. Copies of the current By-Laws were distributed to each member of the committee to start the review process.
2. Peer Leader Training began on January 29 for Project Healthy Living and will conclude on February 21, 2008. Mary Lou Schnurr has met with three physicians, so far, and they are very impressed with the programs and have agreed to refer patients to this and other health and wellness activities sponsored by the Division. Dottie Fausak from Newton Memorial Hospital will be presenting information about the program to several physician groups at the hospital.
3. The Division of Senior Services will be sponsoring free informational programs at the nutrition sites during March in honor of National Nutrition Month. Prizes will also be available at each site. At this time the Vernon Senior Center will conduct the program on March 18. Other senior centers will announce the dates soon.
4. Dorothy Armstrong will continue to interview individuals for the Senior Profile in Renaissance Magazine, therefore we are seeking senior role models to be interviewed. Please contact the Division of Senior Services with the names of outstanding seniors.
5. A Resolution was adopted by the Board of Chosen Freeholders regarding the appointment of the same immediate family members to various boards and committees for the County of Sussex. A copy of the Resolution was distributed.
6. The Sussex County Homestead will be starting a Caregiver Support Group at the Homestead on the last Tuesday of every month from 5 pm – 6 pm. For information contact Lori Baker at 973-948-5400, ext 3140.
7. The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program began February 4 and will conclude on April 15. To schedule an appointment at one of the locations contact the Division of Senior Services.
8. The Senior Providers Group is looking for agencies and programs that deal with the needs of seniors to attend their meetings. The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 25, 2008 at the Sussex County Homestead from 8:30 am – 9:30 am.
9. The dates of the 2008 events for the Division of Senior Services were distributed.

Legislative Update

The Economic Stimulus Plan is pending approval from the House and Senate. The Senate version of the bill proposes to provide support for seniors, unlike the House version. If the bill does not pass then support will be needed from the senior population so that they are included.

Housing Committee Report

The ribbon cutting was held for the Shared Housing, it was a wonderful event. Sussex County Transit will be transporting the residents of the Shared Housing units to shopping on various days.

Minority Outreach Committee

No Report.

Baby Boomer Committee

No Report.

Old Business

None.

New Business

All the contracts for the contracted services will be on the February 27 Freeholder Meeting for approval.

Announcements

- 1.) Dorothy Fausak – Newton Hospital has a new calendar of events that will be coming out. It will no longer be published in the newspaper.
- 2.) Doris Lantz– People Help has applied for a Grant to assist seniors with utility costs. At this time the Grant is pending approval.
- 3.) Nancy Hess – The Project Health Living Program is currently training peer leaders to facilitate the classes. One class has been scheduled on April 23 from 3-5:30 pm and they can register up to 15 people. A second class is being planned.

With no further business to report the meeting was adjourned with a motion by Ann Farnsworth and a second by Deena Smith. All were in favor.

The next meeting will be March 6th
12 PM at Tri Co Federal Credit Union

Respectfully submitted,

Diane M. Friedberg

Sussex County Division of Senior Services