

**Montgomery Township
Senior Committee Meeting Minutes
October 19, 2022**

Location: Montgomery Township Community and Recreation Center, Senior Lounge

Members Present: Charles Vesay, Bud Reick, Don Riley, Joyce Malagari, Joy Zwicker, Claire Bruno
Board Liaison Audrey Ware, and Staff Liaison Deborah Rivas

Public Guests: State Rep. Todd Stephens, Rep. Stephen's Representative Bill Dixon, Township residents
Helen Haig, Karen Navitsky and Barb Galante

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order by Chair Chuck Vesay at 12:03 p.m.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comment:

- a. **State Rep. Todd Stephens PA Budget Report** – Rep. Stephens and his associate, Bill Dixon, presented an update on the recently passed PA Budget. Rep. Stephens stated that it was a Bi-Partisan budget, and he announced that over \$9 billion was added to the Rainy Day Fund to be available to protect taxpayers should the economy take a downturn in the future. The budget also provided a one-time 70% enhancement of the Property Tax and Rent Rebates for seniors, as well as funding for environmental concerns, childcare tax credits, public safety and record-high educational funding. Rep. Stephens said that he was happy to attend the Senior Committee meeting and wanted to help support the initiatives of the Senior Committee. The commitment to help with a mailing to seniors in early 2023 was confirmed by Rep. Stephens.
- b. Former original Senior Committee member Helen Haig provided a history of the Senior Committee and the various activities that the committee promoted. She suggested that the committee continue to offer programs on Medicare and suggested a company called “Reprise” which has been very helpful to several members. Ms. Haig encouraged the committee to keep trying different types of activities/programs for seniors.
- c. Karen Navitsky is a retired resident living in the Montgomery Oaks community. She was not aware that the Township had a Senior Committee until she saw the table at Autumn Festival. She is looking to interact with other active seniors in the community and offered suggestions on how to help seniors become more involved.
- d. Barb Galante has lived on Line Street for 43 years. She would like to volunteer to assist groups supporting military families. Bud Reick informed her that the Village of Neshaminy Falls has a veteran's group that meets on the third Saturday of every month at 10:00 a.m.

4. Approval of the Minutes for September 21, 2022 –A motion to approve the minutes as presented was made by Don Riley and seconded by Bud Reick. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Old Business:

- a. **Autumn Festival** – The committee discussed their participation in Rep. Todd Stephens Senior Expo and Autumn Festival events. They acquired over 60 email addresses of residents interested in receiving the Township's electronic newsletter.

- b. **Mailing Update** –Rep. Todd Stephens’ office is prepared to send out the mailing for the committee. The committee needs to provide what they would like to send out. This should be the focus of next month’s meeting.

6. New Business:

- a. **Website** – the current Senior Resource Book that is on the website is from 2016 and will need updating. Joy Zwicker will reach out to Derek Muller with information for the Senior Committee’s webpage.
 - b. **Breakfast with Santa** – The Senior Committee participates in this annual tradition by volunteering to dress up in festive attire and serve food to the visiting families. The event is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, December 17, from 9 am to 3 pm.
7. **Discussion Items:** The committee discussed obtaining a tablecloth for their events, and the Township can provide one. Staff will need the Senior Committee logo/design and to determine how the Committee would like the tablecloth to appear.
8. **Adjournment:** There was no further business, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:15 p.m. was made by Bud Reick and seconded by Joyce Malagari. The motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted by: Deborah Rivas, Staff Liaison

Next meeting: **Wednesday, November 16, 2022, at Noon**