

Montgomery Township Senior Committee Meeting Minutes

Date: November 18, 2015

Location: Montgomery Township Community & Recreation Building, Senior Lounge

Present: Peg Azarian, Chair, Karen Grant, Helen Haag, Jeff McDonnell, Marian Pinkerton, Matt Reimel, Ralph Schurr, Jackie Volk, and Ginny Bailey.

Chairman Peg Azarian called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

The Committee welcomed Matt Reimel, Athletic and Recreation Coordinator, who will start attending Senior Volunteer Committee meetings.

The minutes of the September 9, 2015 meeting were approved as distributed.

Public Comment:

There was no public comment.

Unfinished Business:

Discussion of Opening Day and Members' Reaction to the Community Center

The Committee asked Matt about the status of memberships and rentals of the Center. The consensus is that the opening was "fabulous" and about 2,000 people visited the Center before the fire alarm went off. Several of the Committee were appreciative of the police and fire department members who helped them evacuate the building or allowed them to return to retrieve personal belongings. They also thought it was kind of the police department to help bring the food out during the concert since no one was allowed back in the building.

Jackie was concerned about the fees charged for some of the programs and Matt said he had just met that day with representatives from Solana Senior Living in Horsham who offered to provide programs such as bocce, canvas painting, card games, wine and cheese, etc. for seniors free of charge. Matt said he will look into this further to see what kind of programs we could offer. Helen was concerned about classes held on Sundays but Matt reported that, so far, Sunday classes have been cancelled due to low enrollment.

Silver Sneakers – Ralph wanted to know if the Township was getting paid for the members with Silver Sneakers. Both Ginny and Matt said that we are keeping track of the members coming in to use the facilities with Silver Sneakers but we probably won't get paid for them until we are officially in the program. Ralph asked how the Center could make any money but Matt said the event room rentals are more than compensating the Center for any money lost with Silver Sneakers. The members also asked for signs on the walking track letting walkers know how many laps equal 1 mile.

Medicare Seminar – Wrap Up

Although the seminar was not well attended, it was felt that even if one person was helped, the seminar was worthwhile. Helen said that Nancy from the Horsham Library was supposed to get permission to attend the seminar to assist Bob Sykes but never received it from RSVP. Ralph asked if it might be possible for the Committee to learn about Medicare and present the seminar but since Bob and Nancy are trained by RSVP, it was suggested that Ralph contact RSVP for training.

Report from the Recreation Office

Much of Matt's report was discussed with the Community Center opening so there was no additional report. Helen asked about security at the Center after reading about a woman attacked at the Horsham Library. Matt said there are security cameras throughout the building and everyone entering the building has to sign in at the front desk.

New Business:

Future of Baby Boomers Program

The Committee decided that due to the low attendance, it wasn't fair to have speakers come out for a few people but perhaps the programs offered by Solana Senior Living would be the way to go. The Committee would be interested in finding out what they can offer once Matt gets more information.

Breakfast with Santa Volunteers

Ginny reported that the Breakfast with Santa event will be held Saturday, December 5th in the full event room with crafts in the Senior Lounge. The FDMT has been contacted about bringing Santa and the caterer has been booked. It's a fun event and Ralph, Helen, Jackie and Karen have offered to help out.

Reorganization Meeting in January

The Committee will meet in January and if Peg and Jackie do not want to continue as chair and vice chair, we will need nominations for those offices. Also, the January meeting is usually the time the Committee plans out it's events for the year.

Wine and Cheese at Wegmans

Ginny mentioned that since the Committee will not meet again until after the first of the year, it might be nice to get together before the holidays. Ginny had received an email from Wegmans advertising a wine and cheese night on Wednesdays for \$10 per person. After checking calendars, it was decided December 9th would work best. Ginny will call and make reservations and email the group.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Next meeting – Wednesday, January 20th at 7:00 pm in the Senior Lounge.

Submitted by Ginny Bailey