



TOWN OF NISKAYUNA

Parks and Community Programs Committee

Senior Advisory Committee

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JOE LANDRY
Supervisor

JULIE MCDONNELL
Chair

Meeting Notes- Friday, September 28, 2012

Chair's Report

Councilwoman McDonnell reported the following:

- The Town Bus Transportation Policy was approved by the Parks and Community Programs Committee at the September 6th meeting and is now in effect.
- The Library book sale is this weekend and all are encouraged to attend and support the sale, which benefits Friends of the Library.
- The Town Supervisor's 2013 Budget will be introduced on Monday, October 1. Based on discussions with the Supervisor and committee recommendations, the proposed budget contains provisions to make Rosemarie Mullaney and Cindy Desso permanent staff. Councilwoman McDonnell asked for support of these positive changes to the Center during the budget process.
- Councilwoman McDonnell thanked volunteers and staff for a wonderful Veterans Luncheon held on September 11. The food was delicious and the event was enjoyed by all.

The subcommittees reported on their progress as follows:

Transportation – Richard Ratajak told the group that the Transportation Policy has been effective and well-received. The new bus has been a great addition to the program and is much appreciated by those riding. The Committee will continue to make recommendations to address senior transportation needs.

Fundraising- Nancy Marcello reported on the upcoming White Elephant Sale, which will be held at the Community Center on Friday, October 13 and Saturday, October 14. Many donations have been received and some beautiful crafts have been made. Staff and center volunteers have been very busy preparing for this event. The cookbook and election-day bake sale were also discussed.

Communications and Outreach – The Committee again discussed the benefits of membership cards and newsletters. This is something we will pursue in the new year, as our staffing time is increased (assuming the budget changes are enacted).

Trips, Programs, and Facilities: See staff report.

Community Resources: A discussion was held about working more closely with the Jewish Community Center, since they also offer a vast array of senior programs. In addition it was suggested that local senior centers staff/volunteers should consider holding meeting periodically to share ideas, network and explore opportunities to coordinate programming, trips, etc.

Staff Report:

Rosemarie Mullaney and Cindy Desso reported that the summer trips and programs were very successful, and many pictures were shared. The upcoming October calendar was discussed and is posted on the Town's website. A trip to the Mohonk Mountain Club is the highlight of the October schedule. Attendance at the Senior Center continues to rise, and morale has been good.

The next Senior Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Friday, October 26 at 10 am at Niskayuna Town Hall.